

A MAGAZINE
FOR LESBIAN/GAY
LIBERATION

THE BODY *Politics*

SOUVENIR CELEBRATION ISSUE!

- WISH-FUL THINKING — You tell us your dreams
- ★ TIME OF OUR LIVES — Highlights from 15 years of visibility
- ★ HOMOLAND, O MY HOMOLAND — We get our own country — in the Caribbean!
- ★ OFF THE WALL — A decade and a half of posters

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**Many thanks to Jo Niemi for these inspiring words.*

THE BODY Politic

"The liberation of homosexuals can only be the work of homosexuals themselves."
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Number 134
January 1987

24 Wish-ful thinking

Ever had a fairy at the bottom of your bed? Well, we sent Lindsay to the bedrooms of just dozens of our friends, and he's back with a clutch-full of wishes for the next 15 years. And you'll never guess what Claire Hoy wants!

7 Ontario votes yes!

On June 29, 1972, gay people in Toronto held a demonstration to demand — for the first time — the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code. A mere 14 years later — and we've got it! Andrew Lesk and Ken Popert look at the story behind that impressive 64-45 vote.

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If you came out of the closet in the last 15 years, you've probably had to put up a poster at least once. We've plundered the Canadian Gay Archives for a selection from a decade and a half of wall talk.

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Long-time activist Tim McCaskell picks — with difficulty — the highlights from 15 years of triumphs and defeats, tears and celebrations.

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Remember Exodus? Well, you ain't seen nothing yet. Cartoonist Gary Ostrom's vision of that not-too-distant day — when we get our own country.

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The cover: Illustration by Ian King; design by Dale Bolivar and Ian King.

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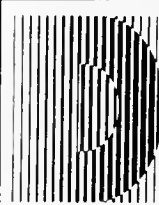


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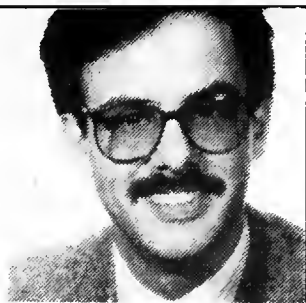
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EDITORIAL

Bill 7: making it right

On December 2, 64 men and women stood to pass an amendment to Ontario's Bill 7, thus protecting the province's lesbians and gays against discrimination. It was a heady experience to watch these provincial legislators rise to affirm their belief, to tell us that, yes, you have been discriminated against and we believe that this discrimination must stop.

Ultimately, this struggle was won by the strength of the efforts of thousands of lesbians and gay men who believed in their right to the world. Much of the work can be attributed to groups such as the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario and the Toronto-based Right To Privacy Committee; their alliance in coordinating grass roots mobilization proved effective. And we cannot forget the others who, in their own way, demonstrated to politicians and public alike that gay rights are part of that larger picture we call human rights.

The Ontario Human Rights Code amendment was actively supported by a number of politicians from all three parties: Evelyn Gigantes, the NDP member who initiated the amendment and fiercely stood by it; Susan Fish, an MLA who, with strong words of support, continued to defy the bigotry of some of her Conservative colleagues; and the three party leaders, especially Premier Peterson whose endorsement showed true leadership. We must also thank politicians such as Conservative MLA Alan Pope, whose blatant quest for power and narrow-mindedness on this issue served as an inspiration for many to fight harder.

But what now? What does this amendment mean? Quite simply, it means that lesbians and gays in Ontario who are unfairly discriminated against have legal recourse. But, more than that, it is a signal to all that discrimination is unacceptable. While deeply entrenched attitudes will not instantly fade away, Ontario citizens, like their Quebec counterparts, must embark on the process of ending inequity and intolerance.

We won in the best way possible. We can reflect on the debate that elicited arguments that had nothing to do with the proposed amendment and everything to do with regressive religious control. We can be glad that, in Ontario, there is a legislature that can differentiate between human rights and campaigns of hate. Most of all, for all those lesbians and gays who always knew they were equal, take pride: we are.

Andrew Lesk, for the Collective

Our first fifteen years

Nothing quite matches the feeling of getting exactly what you want for your birthday. While The Body Politic celebrates its 15th birthday, people across Ontario and beyond are rejoicing over the passage of legislation that will give lesbians and gays in Ontario their rights. Our victory was due to the efforts of many people, and The Body Politic is proud to have been part of it.

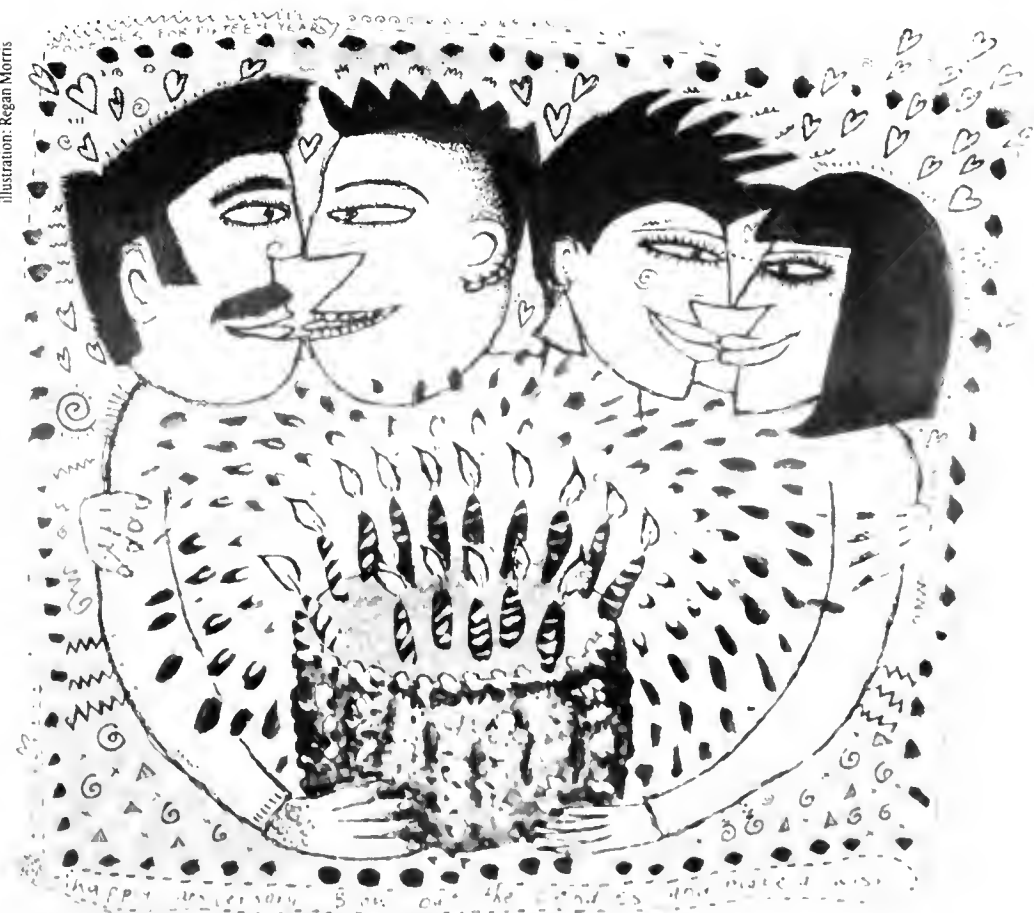
We have always been more than a magazine: for 15 years we have been part of a movement, demanding full equality, asserting our right to be ourselves. Some of those years were spent fighting a court battle that has formed an important part of gay political history. Through it all, we have never wavered from our belief that the discussion of our sexualities, of our history, should never be censored.

We have relied on the contributions and talents of volunteers and a skeleton staff that have given unstintingly to create a cultural and political forum we can be proud of. We welcome those who want to help us in our efforts, through creativity or criticism.

The Body Politic has never stood still in contributing to the struggle for equality. Despite changes in public attitudes and legislation, there remains a lot of work to do: externally, there is the federal criminal code and the issue of police reform; internally we are immersed in an attempt at extensive restructuring, finding ways to meet the needs of a changing community. This process will never cease.

Facing the years ahead requires determination and courage. Our struggle, and the struggle of lesbians and gay men the world over, is for liberation: the right to be who we are.

David Rayside, for the Collective



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In an historic victory, Ontario's gays defeat an ugly campaign by churches and businesses as lawmakers amend the province's human rights code

Victory in Ontario!

"A yes 64, nays 45."

With this vote, the Ontario legislature passed an amendment December 2 which, when it becomes law, will protect the province's lesbians and gays from discrimination in housing, employment and services. The vote came after days of emotional and exhaustive debate and was the culmination of the most fiercely fought struggle the provincial legislators have seen in recent years.

When the time came to vote at 6:03pm, right after Premier David Peterson had endorsed the amendment to Bill 7, the packed galleries and rapt attention of all underscored the years of struggle. Nothing, I think, could quite match the impact of seeing 64 men and women stand to be counted in favour of our rights, our *human* rights. When the speaker announced the final tally of 64 for, 45 against, gallery attendees and legislative members alike broke out in a solid round of applause. Evelyn Gigantes, the MLA who introduced the sexual orientation amendment to Bill 7, was handed a bouquet of flowers.

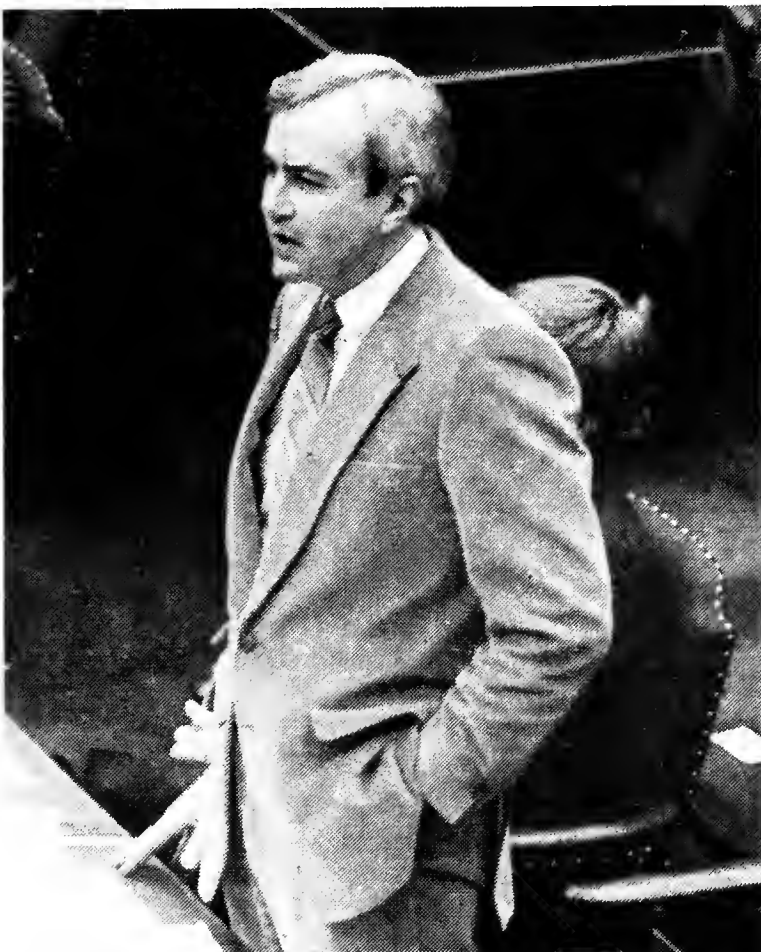
The victory for gays and lesbians comes exactly five years and one day after similar legislation was defeated in the same legislature by a vote of 69-23, on December 1, 1981. Coincidentally, the proposed amendment would have become a part of that year's Bill 7. The turn-around of 1986 was due to a number of factors, notably a minority Liberal government and relentless campaigning by the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO) and Toronto's Right To Privacy Committee (RTPC).

Whereas only six Liberals had been in favour of the 1981 amendment, 39 of the 43 Liberals present at this year's vote said yes. The Conservatives also increased their tally from a lone one in 1981 to four in 1986.

It was evident by last spring that this would be the year that gay rights would occupy the energies of many activists, on either side of the issue. On May 6, MLA Evelyn Gigantes (NDP — Ottawa Centre) moved the sexual orientation amendment to Bill 7 in committee. The amendment was passed by the all-party committee (four PCs, four Liberals, two NDP) 8-2, the two negative votes being PC. Despite plenty of opportunity to discuss and possibly forestall the amendment, only one question was asked.

Meanwhile, CGRO began a low-key lobbying effort, aimed at Liberal MLAs seen as being "on the fence." After a summer lull, the approach of fall saw an organization called the Coalition for Family Values (CFV) mount a misinformation campaign, aided by the organizing clout of the National Citizen's Coalition, a right-wing think tank, and the religious hammer of the Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"Any law that leaves the door open to such a life-style (homosexuality) will cause great harm to society," stated an October 1 release from the bishops. It was clear that fundamentalist forces would make passage of the amendment no easy



Oration and ovation: Premier David Peterson delivers the final speech on Bill 7 and, a few minutes later, the galleries erupt into applause as the sexual orientation amendment passes.

thing.

"By October 20, there was the realization that things were beginning to slip," says RTPC spokesperson David Rayside. A sub-committee to lobby the Ontario legislature had been formed, with supplementary work coming from both the RTPC and CGRO. By October 25, a rally was approved for November 24 and a rally committee was constituted.

"The different organizational styles of CGRO and RTPC matched perfectly," said Rayside. "The work done in Toronto — a phone-and-write campaign, progressive contacts, the rally — proved most effective." CGRO stepped up provincial contacts.

By November 20, most people in the Toronto vicinity knew of the rally. It has been well-advertised in local papers, and bright yellow flyers littered the poles in the downtown area.

About 1,500 people attended the rally at St Lawrence Market. Speakers included NDP Party Leader Bob Rae, Liberal Party whip Joan Smith and PC MLA Phil Gillies. Gillies later put his feelings on attending the rally before the legislature: "The people at the rally... did not seem to be very unhappy or filled with recrimination, doubt or anger. The feeling was almost one of celebration. But it was also the feeling of people who wanted to see an historic wrong righted."

Other luminaries who came to show their support were local councillor Jack Layton and scene-stealer Margaret Atwood, displaying her dry, sharp wit in a speech on sexual intolerance.

And the timing of the rally could not have been better. By the weekend, it was common knowledge that the debate on Bill 7 would begin on No-

vember 24. Weekend lobbying from both sides was aimed at knocking Liberal MLAs off the fence. On the morning of the 24th, the CFV held a last-minute press conference at Queen's Park, announcing a survey to "challenge the 'myth' of public support for 'homosexual rights.'"

The amendment "clearly does not have the support of the majority of Ontarians," said CFV leader Hudson Hilsden, adding that the Liberal government was "out of touch" with the people of Ontario. Hudson and assistant Bob Nadeau hauled out the usual rhetoric — gays *are* protected by the OHRC, this amendment would give gays 'special rights' — and let their true meanness of spirit show by saying: "People who choose a certain lifestyle must be prepared to live with the consequences."

When TBP asked Hilsden about his statement that passage of the sexual orientation amendment would have "more serious consequences for the people of Ontario" than elsewhere, Hilsden replied that he felt Ontarians would react more strongly than, say, neighbouring people in Quebec (who have lived with similar legislation for the past nine years).

Switchboards at Queen's Park lit up Monday morning: calls opposing the Bill 7 amendment, solicited no doubt at church services the day before, were many, but they died down by the late afternoon. The beginning of the Bill 7 debate was pre-empted by an emergency debate on the future of a Goodyear plant in Toronto.

The attorney general, Ian Scott, opened the debate the next afternoon. His long address was an indication of the four days of debate to come. Scott eloquently and wholeheartedly endorsed the

amendment to his bill. In speaking of gay rights, he said: "It is not a question of giving privilege, extra rights or special status, and it never was." A few minutes later, an irate observer, sitting in the Member's Guest gallery, was ejected for calling Scott a liar.

Afterward, Gigantes also spoke in favour of the amendment: "We know how far the effect of allowing the promotion of discrimination can go. We have witnessed murder in this province by young people who thought it was okay if the victim was a homosexual." Gigantes also spoke out against a society dominated by male sexual oppression: "I feel deeply offended by the understanding that some men will organize in religious and business groups to say that men who are not like them are traitors to a system where sex is a rightful means of oppression. Some of those men are hypocrites. Some are not telling the truth. Some know they are not heterosexual."

The true downer of the day came from one of the few dissenting Liberals, Bob McKessock (Grey), who, after saying he would only take a "few moments," went on for 25 minutes quoting letters and petitions from constituents on the issue. Truly, an MLA who plays to the crowds or, in this case, the TV cameras.

Numerous Tories spoke against the amendment during the next two days, often in phrases first fashioned by the CFV. They quoted church groups and constituents belonging to those groups. They quoted letters which, aside from

continued on page 9



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continued from page 7

being curiously well-informed on the issue, all shared common phrases and buzzwords: the amendment will open the door to bestiality and paedophilia; it will destroy traditional family values; it will ruin the fabric of society; it will destroy moral standards.... And so on.

Shining through the clouds came Noble Villeneuve's (PC — Stormont-Glenarry-Dundas) gaffe about the sexual orientation amendment in Quebec having caused that province's declining birthrate. Following that he inserted the other foot into his mouth by falling over Liberal Joan Smith's joke about her efforts in trying to stem the decline. "I am sure," Villeneuve said, "...that her husband had something to do with it, and my good wife certainly had a great deal to do with it as well." Robert Callahan (Lib — Brampton) quickly shot back: "Your wife had something to do with Smith's family? You are in trouble."

Smith later spoke herself on the issue of special rights: "I wish I could be guaranteed I would never hear this term 'special rights' used again," she said, "because there are no special rights; there are just human rights for human beings."

Closing off the fourth day of debate was MLA Susan Fish (PC — St George). A solid supporter of gay rights, Fish lashed out at some of her colleagues and the Catholic bishops for their intolerance: "How ridiculous, how damning, how dangerous, how mean-spirited, how nasty, how betraying of genuine charity, compassion, tolerance and understanding. I will have no truck with those who deliberately misdirect conclusions based on facts," Fish asserted, "and I will proudly stand in my place to support this amendment and this bill."

December 2, the last day of debate, finally revealed opposition leader Larry Grossman's stand on the issue. After apologizing to those in

the public galleries who had to sit through days of offensive rhetoric, he affirmed what we had known all along. "Does this bill approve, encourage or reward a lifestyle? I think it only protects that lifestyle against discrimination. Does it have anything to do with illegality, bestiality, sodomy, paedophilia? Of course it does not."

Finally, Premier David Peterson spoke, bringing the issue close to home: "Supposing that when one of my children was 16 or 18 and he came to me and said, 'Dad, I am a homosexual.' What would you do then? Would you give your child some of the speeches we have heard in this House in the last six days and throw him out the door?"

In endorsing the amendment, Peterson finished with: "I think we can all walk out of this House tonight — I hope this resolution will pass — saying, 'We have done the right thing for Ontario and we are proud to support it.'"

The bells rang throughout the House calling all members to vote. After the amendment passed, and after the applause stopped, one question remained on the minds of many people present: What now?

The reaction from the anti-rights side is unequivocal in its cry: "Unfair!" Gracious losers they are not.

Rev A J Macdougall told TBP that the amendment left many grey areas, all subject to interpretation, and that this soon-to-be law could possibly invite a court case.

"Only experience will be able to teach us," he said. Asked whether he thought that this was an attack on morality, he allowed that it was "at least a threat." And asked if he had examined the Quebec experience or if he had spoken to Quebec bishops, Macdougall said, "We don't know the reaction of bishops in Quebec and, no, we didn't confer with them."

The future of the CFV is also a point to ponder. Hudson Hilsden told TBP that their mandate is now to "keep people informed of how much damage it will do to society." He would not compare Quebec's situation to Ontario's, only saying that "we have a much, much, much broader religious base" in this province.

When I mentioned that his organization has the right to appeal to the Ontario Human Rights Commission for exemption, Hilsden began to speak of "reverse onus:" the "much larger groups of society" would now have to prove the need for exemptions. This led to his reiteration of the charge that homosexuals are getting "special rights" at the cost of society.

The National Citizen's Coalition is "very disappointed on the decision," according to marketing director Alex Alvaro, who also says that the NCC is taking a "wait and see" approach. "Our previous comments still hold with respect to this legislation," he told TBP. "The amendment is so vague, you just don't know how it will be applied 10, 20, 30 years down the road."

One person who invited a lot of reaction with her criticisms was Susan Fish. She reported that "some of my colleagues were pleased and proud; some were angry." (Nick Leluk — York South — verbally attacked her in the House.) Although there is "a bit of a glacier," Fish feels that the wounds will close.

Fish also reports that her office has received about 30 calls from Catholic lay people and priests alike, all saying they strongly disagree with the Conference of Bishops. Further to this, many people from across the province have called, voicing their encouragement. As far as the CFV goes, Fish said that Hilsden and his cohorts surround-

ed her outside the legislature after the debate and were "fairly abusive." That aside, she remains elated.

A party colleague who joined Fish in voting for the amendment was Brantford MLA Phil Gillies. Gillies, who found "a lot of emotion" in the debate, says he hasn't encountered anger or bitterness from fellow PC members.

Gillies does admit that his efforts in getting Don Mills member Dennis Timbrell out to vote had a lot of influence on Larry Grossman's eventual endorsement. Timbrell, highly respected in the PC party (and once very nearly its leader), made Grossman's decision "easier," according to Gillies.

Gillies himself is the labour critic for the PCs. Already, he has spoken with Ontario Human Rights Commission chairperson Bordon Purcell about the implementation of the new amendment and the direction of the Human Rights Code. His work in the area will continue.

One of the people most happy with the passage of the amendment is Evelyn Gigantes, the MLA who introduced the legislation. "I am so pleased," Gigantes told TBP. The delight in her voice was apparent. "What I found most pleasing," she added, "was that it passed with a strong majority vote." Gigantes says she will continue to help "strengthen the whole operation of the Human Rights Code," especially in the areas of rights for the physically and mentally disabled.

The work of organizations like CGRO does not end here. Spokesperson François Lachance told TBP that "issues change as the struggle changes." Lachance said that efforts will now focus on supporting individual cases, education, positive teaching in sexual education classes and spousal benefits. He also notes that lobbying on the federal level is now required in the areas of proposed pornography legislation and customs censorship.

"CGRO is committed to developing grassroots activism and coordinating people throughout Ontario," said Lachance of CGRO's future. "We need a more radical agenda to consolidate what we've done and to push on from there."

The fallout from this legislature is far reaching. The political weight of Ontario does rest heavy on the rest of Canada and this is one instance where we can be thankful of that. The argument that Section 15 of the Charter implicitly prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation gains much strength. With their own human rights legislation pending, the governments of Manitoba and the Yukon cannot soft pedal this issue any longer. Spousal benefits, already a contentious issue in Toronto, is sure to be brought up elsewhere in the province.

David Rayside talks of the amendment in a long-range sense. "The significance lies in sending a message that discrimination is not acceptable," he says, noting that this process may take 50 years. Calling the amendment a "lamplight," Rayside concludes that "the way this was won was the best possible way. There was an open debate; it forced people to think about it; it provoked two (positive) editorials from each of the nation's largest dailies; and it raised consciousness."

"It is a large and public step."

Andrew Lesk ●

A long and winding road

The struggle to have sexual orientation added to the Ontario Human Rights Code has been going on for almost 15 years. What follows is a quick overview of major events in that campaign, excerpted from *Flaunting It!, A Decade of Gay Journalism from The Body Politic*, edited by Ed Jackson and Stan Persky.

June 29, 1972: In the first public action, gays demonstrated at Queen's Park to protest the omission of sexual orientation from amendments to the code being considered by the legislature.

August 25, 1973: Simultaneous demonstrations in Toronto and Vancouver demand the inclusion of sexual orientation in provincial human rights laws.

February 18, 1974: Members of the Gay Alliance Toward Equality (GATE) picket the Toronto offices of the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC).

March 1, 1974: GATE members meet representatives of the Ontario Human Rights Commission. **August 17, 1974:** Toronto's Gay Pride March converges on Queen's Park. First time dailies cover such a march.

January 18 and 19, 1975: Founding conference of the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO) at Toronto's Donvale Community Centre.

March 21, 1975: Ontario Racing Commission steward John Damien files suit against the commission for wrongful dismissal after it learns he is gay and fires him.

September 13, 1975: CGRO march in Toronto calls for reinstatement of John Damien and inclusion of sexual orientation in the code.

May 6, 1976: Two MLAs, Margaret Campbell (Liberal — St George) and Ted Bounsell (NDP — Windsor) introduce private member's bills to add sexual orientation to the code. Bills subsequently defeated.

June 17, 1975: CGRO presents brief, *The Homosexual Minority*, to the OHRC.

April 4, 1977: MLA Margaret Campbell again introduces a private member's bill to add sexual orientation to the code. Bill subsequently defeated.

May 21, 1977: CGRO demonstration converges on Queen's Park with human rights demands.

July 21, 1977: OHRC review committee publishes *Life Together*, a report calling for inclusion

of sexual orientation in the code.

May 3, 1978: CGRO distributes brief, *Discrimination and the Gay Minority*, to the legislature. Liberal leader Stuart Smith supports inclusion of sexual orientation.

October 29, 1979: Gay activists hold "mince-in" at legislature to draw attention to inaction on human rights protection for homosexuals.

November, 1979: Ontario Federation of Labour convention calls on provincial government to extend protection against discrimination to lesbians and gay men.

November 22, 1979: Tory government tries to sidestep OHRC recommendations by introducing a bill dealing only with the rights of the handicapped. The move is universally condemned. Bill is later withdrawn.

November 25, 1980: Tory labour minister introduces bill to amend the code. Sexual orientation is not included.

December 10, 1980: Facing an imminent election, NDP leader Michael Cassidy says gay rights "not a priority at this time."

June 2, 1981: Standing committee of legislature begins hearings on human rights bill. First to speak are Body Politic lawyer Clayton Ruby and CGRO.

September 24, 1981: Report by lawyer Arnold Bruner, commissioned by Toronto city council in the wake of the 1981 bathhouse raids, calls for inclusion of sexual orientation in the code.

December 1, 1981: Ontario legislature defeats NDP amendment to include sexual orientation in the code. Five demonstrators handcuff themselves to the railings of the public gallery, briefly disrupting the legislature.

June 18, 1985: Ontario's 42-year-old Tory government is defeated by the combined vote of the Liberals and New Democrats after losing its majority in the May 2 election. With the support of the NDP, the Liberals form a government on June 26.

May 6, 1986: A standing committee of the legislature studying a bill to bring Ontario's laws into line with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms accepts an amendment by MLA Evelyn Gigantes (NDP — Ottawa Centre) that would add sexual orientation to the code.

December 2, 1986: Legislature votes 64-45 to keep sexual orientation amendment proposed by Gigantes.

Ken Popert ●

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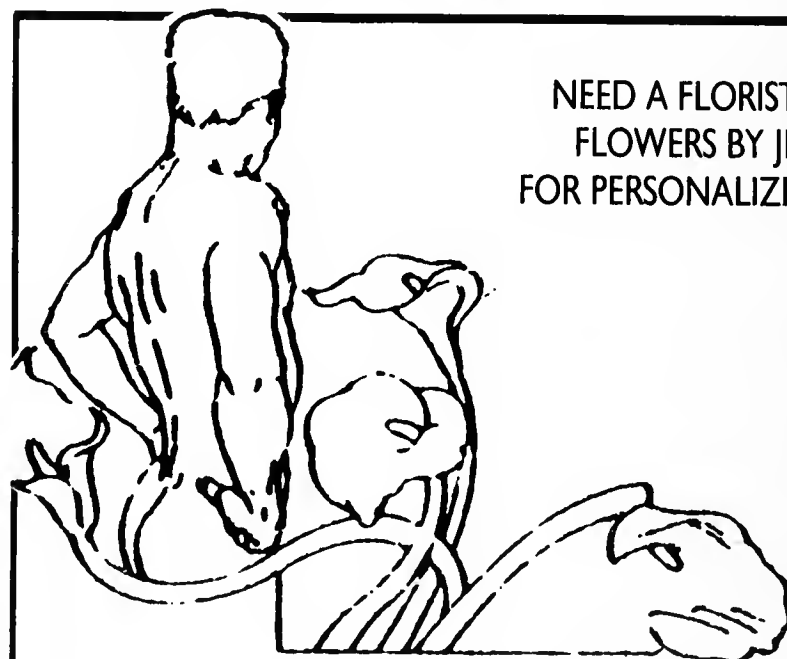
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How they voted

In the December 2 vote on the sexual orientation amendment, 123 MLAs were entitled to vote. (Neither the speaker nor the deputy speaker can vote except to break a tie).

In favor

Liberals

David Peterson (London Centre)
James Bradley (St. Catharines)
Bob Callahan (Brampton)
Elinor Caplan (Orillia)
Sean Conway (Renfrew North)
David Cooke (Kitchener)
Joseph Cordiano (Downsview)
Alvin Curling (Scarborough North)
John Eakins (Victoria-Halliburton)
Murray Elston (Huron Bruce)
Herb Epp (Waterloo North)
Ed Fulton (Scarborough East)
Bernard Grandmaitre (Ottawa East)
Christine Hart (York East)
Jim Henderson (Humber)
Vince Kerro (Niagara Falls)
Ken Keyes (Kingston & the Islands)
Monte Kwinter (Wilson Heights)
Remo Mancini (Essex South)
James McGuigan (Kent-Elgin)
Gordon Miller (Haldimand-Norfolk)
Lily Munro (Hamilton Centre)
Bernard Newman (Windsor-Walkerville)
Robert Nixon (Brant-Oxford-Norfolk)
Steve Offer (Mississauga North)
Hugh O'Neil (Quinte)
Jean Poirier (Prescott-Russell)
Claudio Polinelli (Yorkview)
David Ramsay (Timiskaming)
Doug Reycraft (Middlesex)
Jack Riddell (Huron-Middlesex)
Tony Ruprecht (Parkdale)
Eddie Sargent (Grey-Bruce)
Ian Scott (St. David)
Joan Smith (London South)
Greg Sorbara (York North)
Ron Van Horne (London North)
Chris Ward (Wentworth North)
Bill Wrye (Windsor-Sandwich)

Conservatives

Larry Grossman (St. Andrew-St. Patrick)
Susan Fish (St. George)
Phil Gillies (Brantford)
Dennis Timbrell (Don Mills)

New Democrats

Bob Rae (York South)
Richard Allen (Hamilton West)
Mike Breugh (Oshawa)
Marion Bryden (Beaches-Woodbine)
Brian Charlton (Hamilton Mountain)
Dave Cooke (Windsor-Riverside)
Jim Foulds (Port Arthur)
Evelyn Gigantes (Ottawa Centre)
Tony Grande (Oakwood)
Ruth Grier (Lakeshore)
Pat Hayes (Essex North)
Richard Johnston (Scarborough West)
Floyd Laughren (Nickel Belt)
Bob MacKenzie (Hamilton East)
Elie Martel (Sudbury East)
Ross McClellan (Bellwoods)
Ed Philip (Etobicoke)
David Reville (Riverside)
Mel Swart (Welland Thorold)
David Warner (Scarborough-Eglinton)
Bud Wildman (Algoma)

Against

Liberals

Maurice Bossey (Chatham-Kent)
Ray Haggerty (Erie)
Robert McKessock (Grey)
David Smith (Lambton)

Conservatives

Philip Andrewes (Lincoln)
George Ashe (Durham West)
Reuben Baetz (Ottawa West)
Bill Barlow (Cambridge)
Claude Bennett (Ottawa South)
Leo Bernier (Kenora)
Andy Brandt (Sarnia)
Don Cousens (York Centre)
Sam Cureatz (Durham East)
William Davis (Scarborough Centre)
Gordon Dean (Wentworth)
Ernie Eves (Parry Sound)
Bud Gregory (Mississauga East)
Luc Guindon (Cornwall)
Mike Harris (Nipissing)
Mickey Hennessy (Fort William)
Cam Jackson (Burlington South)
Jack Johnson (Wellington-Dufferin-Peel)
John Lane (Algoma-Manitoulin)
Nick Letuk (York West)
Margaret Marland (Mississauga South)
Bruce McCaffrey (Armourdale)
George McCague (Dufferin-Simcoe)
David McFadden (Eglinton)
Allan McLean (Simcoe East)
Ronald McNeil (Elgin)
Frank Miller (Muskoka)
Robert Mitchell (Carleton)
Peter Partington (Brock)
Jack Pierce (Rainy River)
Jim Pollock (Hastings-Peterborough)
Alan Pope (Cochrane South)
Earl Rowe (Simcoe Centre)
Robert Runciman (Leeds)
Howard Sheppard (Northumberland)
Bette Stephenson (York Mills)
Norm Sterling (Carleton-Grenville)
Ross Stevenson (Durham York)
James Taylor (Prince-Edward-Lennox)
Noble Villeneuve (Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry)
Douglas Wiseman (Lanark)

Absent

Liberals

Rick Ferraro (Wellington South)
Rene Fontaine (Cochrane North)
Don Knight (Halton-Burlington)
Gilles Morin (Carleton East)
Larry South (Frontenac-Addington)
John Sweeney (Kitchener-Wilmot)

Conservatives

Jim Gordon (Sudbury)
Terry O'Connor (Oakville)
Yuri Shymko (High Park-Swansea)
John Turner (Peterborough)
Paul Yakabuski (Renfrew South)

New Democrats

Tony Lupusella (Dovercourt)
Karl Morin-Strom (Sault Ste. Marie)
Gilles Pouliot (Lake Nipigon)

highly paid residents.

Blain, 35, is openly gay and recognizes the important support he obtained during his campaign not only from gay residents but from various community groups such as tenants associations. He prefers to be known as a councillor who is gay, rather than "the gay councillor," to represent more fairly the diverse population of St-Jacques. Blain says that non-gay residents feel somewhat invaded by the recent influx of gays and the increasing number of gay clubs and businesses along St Catherine St East, referred to as the village de l'est. And yet in an MCM poll conducted in September, 87 percent of 667 respondents (out of 1,000 distributed throughout the district) indicated they would have no objection to being represented by a homosexual councillor. On election day Blain took some 55 percent of the vote.

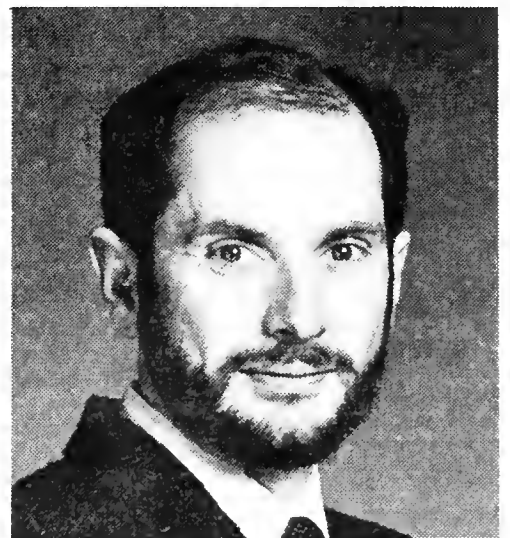
On November 25 the new city council chose its six-member executive committee as well as eight associates, two to assist the mayor and one to assist each committee member. Raymond Blain was named the associate of Léa Cousineau, who will be responsible for recreation, social affairs, health and women's issues.

The new city administration is generally seen by Montreal gays as a major step forward, not only because of Blain's upfront campaign, but also because the MCM has promised a much more open and democratic administration. The party's program includes a number of items of particular interest to gays. For example, the MCM promises to abolish the police morality squad since it is "no longer compatible with a modern, pluralistic society," and to "demand guarantees from the federal government that the political opinions, ethnic origin or sexual orientation of Montrealers not be indicated" in government records.

But it is the MCM's policy on health and social services which is of much more immediate importance to people such as Richard Burzynski and Ken Morrison, executive director and information director respectively of C-SAM, the Comité SIDA-Aide Montréal. C-SAM is a non-profit corporation providing services directly to people with AIDS, as well as promoting public education and prevention. It currently coordinates the work of some 200 volunteers.

During the election campaign, C-SAM wrote to the two leading mayoralty candidates asking their position on AIDS. While Dupras replied that it is basically a provincial matter and promised little more than an occasional free meeting room, Doré reiterated the MCM's position and promised a meeting with C-SAM to discuss concrete measures, without however making any specific commitments, financial or otherwise. In its reply to Doré, C-SAM has requested permanent office space and direct participation by the city in a prevention campaign, as well as support for funding applications to other levels of government, especially Quebec.

On March 31 C-SAM's current 9-month \$106,000 grant from Health and Welfare Canada will expire. This contrasts with two-year federal grants to AIDS groups in Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary and Toronto. The federal government justifies this short-term support by pointing to the Quebec government's refusal to contribute more than a piddling \$1,500. Although Quebec gives significant funding to the Comité SIDA-Québec composed of, and working mainly with, health professionals, the province has so far failed to appreciate the importance of the grassroots work done by C-SAM. C-SAM is currently waiting for a reply to its application for a \$150,000 renewal.



Optimistic. Raymond Blain, not "the gay councillor," but "the councillor who is gay."

al of the federal grant and will ask Quebec for a similar amount. Pressure from the new Montreal city council could be crucial to these funding decisions. Burzynski is "cautiously optimistic" about the MCM's willingness to follow through on its stated intentions.

Raymond Blain strongly supports C-SAM's application for funding from Quebec's social affairs ministry. He says that, well before C-SAM approached the MCM, there was discussion within the party about the possibility of city funding for a home for people with AIDS.

Will the gay community begin to play a significant role in Montreal municipal politics? Blain answers that the community has shown its strength in the past: for example, when gays began to organize in self-defence in the wake of a series of pre-Olympic police raids on several bars, baths and parks. It was this period of organization that gave birth in October 1976 to ADGQ, the Association pour les droits des gais du Québec.

However, Blain's intention is that city council recognize the gay community as a legitimate and respected urban minority, on a par with ethnic minorities. He agrees with Alain Leclerc, press officer of Jean Doré, that a municipal anti-discrimination by-law would be unnecessary since "sexual orientation" is already included in the Quebec human rights charter. But the MCM administration will, says Blain, see that not only the letter but the spirit of the charter is respected both within the public service and in its dealings with citizens. This compares with the party's policy on equality for the sexes in municipal employment, although it does not propose affirmative action programs for gays as it does for women. Blain would support such measures as extending spousal benefits for city employees to include gay couples or encouraging provincial health authorities to include gay men among those groups for whom the hepatitis vaccine is free. However, he emphasizes that the initiative must come from gay community groups, without whose backing little progress can be expected.

ADGQ is still in existence, although it almost did not survive to celebrate its 10th anniversary. It has been without permanent office space for several months. At a general meeting of the association held last July, members rejected a proposal which would have amounted to disbanding, preferring instead to hold a further meeting in the fall to select a new administrative committee. Accordingly, on November 3 a seven-member committee was chosen, headed by president Jacques

Looking for legitimacy

Montreal voters clean house, elect first openly gay city councillor

If you are old enough to remember a time when Jean Drapeau was not mayor of Montreal, you probably prefer not to admit it. Finally, after three decades of virtually autocratic rule by Drapeau and his Civic Party, change came on November 9 when the MCM (Montreal Citizens' Movement or Rassemblement des Citoyens et des Citoyennes de Montréal) took 55 of 58 seats on city council, leaving one lone seat to the Civic Party. MCM mayoralty candidate Jean Doré soundly trounced Drapeau's hand-picked suc-

cessor, Claude Dupras.

Among the newly elected council members is Raymond Blain, active in the MCM since shortly after its inception in the early 1970s. Blain represents the district of St-Jacques, a traditionally working class area which has undergone major changes during the last decade. It is estimated that gay men now constitute some 30 percent of the population of St-Jacques. The proximity to downtown and the presence of CBC headquarters on Dorchester Blvd have also attracted more

Sigouin. The annual Halloween dance which preceded this meeting was highly successful both socially and financially and allowed the outgoing committee to pay off the association's debts. The new leadership plans to hold a colloquium some time in the new year to discuss priorities for the Quebec gay movement.

The new city council's approach to questions such as pornography and prostitution will, to paraphrase Blain, be towards decriminalization and efforts to understand and change their social causes. But when asked about the MCM's policy of abolishing the morality squad, he explains that within a year the new council will begin transferring operations from the squad to the various police stations, which sounds rather more like decentralisation than abolition. As regards outdoor sexual activity such as in certain

areas of Mount Royal Park, the new city administration will "remain as strict," in applying the law, as the previous one. Blain says that some of his gay constituents in St-Jacques have asked for more police presence, not less, because of the frequency of incidents of physical abuse and robbery. The MCM has a policy of hiring more women and minorities for the police. Blain, like his party, evidently believes that significant improvements can be made by changing the attitudes of individual members of the police corps.

David Rand

C-SAM may be reached by phoning INFO-SIDA at (514) 282-9888 or by writing to Box 98, Stn N, Montreal H2X 3M2.

ADGQ, Box 36, Stn C, Montréal H2L 4J7. (514) 521-0417.

The Price is right

Hooker-bashing candidate wins seat on Vancouver city council

For the first time Vancouver has elected a gay man to its 10-member city council. But this does not mean Vancouver gays and lesbians will necessarily have a gay rights advocate inside the municipal chambers.

The unexpected ninth place finish of Gordon Price, co-founder of AIDS Vancouver and controversial leader of the anti-prostitute Shame-The-Johns movement, has the 37-year-old rookie politician scrambling to establish a public gay profile for himself that is right for the times.

Price was swept to victory on the right-wing Non-Partisan Association (NPA) ticket that captured 24 of the 27 positions on council, park board and school board.

The NPA dominated city politics from the 1930s until the early '70s, when it went into decline with the rise of more centrist and left parties.

With the exit of middle of the road NDP mayor Mike Harcourt into provincial politics, this year's election was marked by the red-baiting of popular alderman Harry Rankin, who many expected would replace Harcourt and lead his labour-backed Committee Of Progressive Electors (COPE) to a majority on council in coalition with Harcourt's Civic Independence Party.

Press stories portrayed the NPA's successful yuppie developer mayoral candidate, Gordon Campbell, as "The Kid" versus "The Old Man" (Rankin) and repeatedly published reports denying that Rankin was a communist.

COPE was devastated in the polls.

With this kind of media treatment throughout the campaign, Price was uncomfortable with his media profile as a gay man. He made no attempt to hide it, although he came close in the heat of one radio hotline exchange on CJOR's Dave Barrett Show. A woman caller mistakenly accused Price of promoting gay causes at public meetings. Price evaded the issue by stating that the caller's information was "simply not true."

The day before the election, Price told TBP he had posed himself throughout the campaign as a "community activist who happens to be gay." "I felt it was going to be an issue; but the NPA felt it wouldn't be," he said. "I guess they were right."

The day following his win, Price boasted on BCTV news that he was Canada's first openly gay

elected official.

The next week, however, Price assured a homophobic audience in Vancouver's West End (an area heavily populated by gay men) that he would not be pushing his sexual orientation at City Hall.

"I didn't run as a gay candidate. Just as Bill Yee didn't run as a Chinese candidate or David Levy didn't run as a Jewish candidate," he told a townhall meeting he organized to receive citizen input.

At the meeting, several gay men questioned the alderman-elect about how he saw his role in sup-



photo: Ed Olson, The West End

Profile problems. 'I didn't run as a gay candidate,' says Price.

porting the gay community. Price ignored their questions and nervously laughed along with the hostile audience which jeered gay speakers and applauded when Price brought the agenda back to his three hobby horses: prostitution, traffic and trees.

"Let's stop talking about all these gay things," one angry woman proclaimed.

"What has being gay got to do with civic politics?" asked Kentish Steele, a current board director of the West End Community Centre. "I'm heterosexual. Big deal. That's got nothing to do with fixing streets and prostitution," he said.

At this point this reporter asked Price if he considered himself a gay liberation alderman. He paused for a moment as the room tensed for his reply, "No. I am not," he declared to more applause.

Many of Price's gay backers who were in atten-

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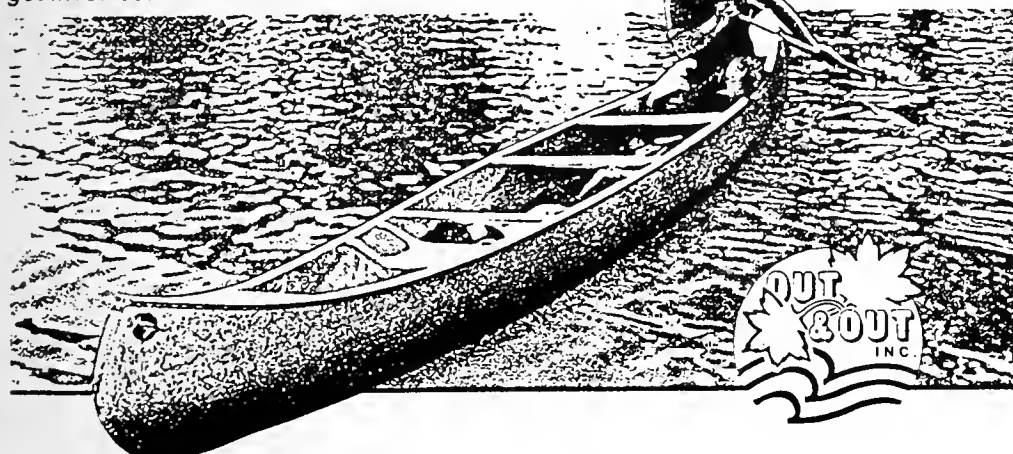
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dance encouraged the alderman to move away from gay questions.

It seems that for them the spectre of public debate on homosexuality was not only distasteful but tested their allegiance to the large anti-hooker lobby, also present.

Just two years ago many of these same men had patrolled West End streets with Price's Shame-The-Johns crusade against prostitutes.

"It's a very short step from Shame-The-Johns to Shame-The-Gays," commented David Carrell, a gay member of the BC Federation of Labour human rights committee who participated in the meeting. "It's a moralistic point of view. You don't solve the problems of prostitution by moving it around or attacking the people engaged in the business," he said.

Carrell predicted Price will "do nothing for gay rights on council. He's merely the token faggot which is the last thing we need in the late '80s. We haven't come this far to go backwards," Carrell said.

Marie Arrington, spokesperson for Prostitutes And Other Women For Equal Rights, charged that "thanks to Mr Price, more women (prostitutes) are going to jail, more have bad tricks and more are beaten."

The continued jailing of women charged for soliciting has forced BC's Oakalla women's prison to reopen a wing to accommodate the large number of prostitutes awaiting trial.

Arrington said the way Price bragged about his vigilante actions during the election campaign was "just like the Klan inflaming rednecks."

Gay Rights Union's Harry Grunsky believes that Price carries some "negative baggage with him to council that could harm the gay community." He pointed to Price's work around Bill C49 which could involve a police crackdown upon the gay community.

But Price is not without his loyal supporters. Allan Herbert, president of AIDS Vancouver, calls him "honest, caring and modest." Herbert said he had difficulty convincing Price to take credit during the campaign for all the work he had done in the past.

Another supporter, Seniors Network volunteer Renee Jensen, said she doesn't know how to express her admiration for Price. "He's simply marvellous," she said. "Until Gordon came along, we all said 'Live and let live' (in reference to the prostitutes); but it took him three years to awaken people like myself to the livability of the West End."

"I don't think of Gordon as a gay," Jensen added. "And I certainly don't expect he will be throwing it in people's faces."

TBP asked Alderman Price to comment on his stand on a few issues. Here is what he had to say.

- **Sexual orientation protection:** He will push the BC legislature to implement protection unanimously passed by the City in 1982;
- **AIDS funding:** Probably. Has his support;
- **Funding for gay and lesbian community centres:** First wants to see an evaluation of the services both centres offer. Depends upon what the city's priorities are at the time;
- **Bathhouses:** No stand on the baths. Still undecided. Sees their role as one of education around safe sex. Has some questions about just how effective that educational effort is;
- **Prostitution:** Will actively campaign for legislation to give the police a tool to control prostitution. Will investigate social services for prostitutes.

For lesbian Sue Harris, the election had its disap-

pointments. Her party, COPE, suffered defeat at all levels and Harris lost her seat as park board commissioner.

Harris had decided prior to the election to play down her lesbianism.

"I don't think the mainstream would accept it," she told TBP during the campaign. "I'm not going to sacrifice myself for anybody if I'm not going to get elected," she said. She said she had discussed the matter with friends who advised her that she wasn't compromising herself or them.

Harris changed her ads in gay publications to "A friend of the gay and lesbian community" from her 1984 slogan "Sue Harris — lesbian feminist."

During the past year, Harris refused two offers from The Vancouver Sun and another from CKVU-TV to interview her as an open lesbian.

"I didn't do (the interviews) because I didn't want to be seen as the gay candidate. Until we have an election where there isn't any red-baiting, being open can wait," she explained.

"The fact that I write for Angles (a gay paper) is great," Harris added, "everybody in that community knows I am gay and I have their vote already."

At least four other gay men were candidates citywide.

The Green Party's Murray Gudmundson said he is "holding his tongue" to see how the NPA does. "I have a feeling they will deny funds to a lot of community groups and AIDS Vancouver may be one of them," he said. Gudmundson said his gayness didn't come up during the campaign, although he didn't hide it. However, the Green Party's Jay Martell denied knowledge of running a gay candidate.

Independent Howard Faulkner saw no reason this time to include his gayness in his literature. In 1984 he campaigned openly as a gay man. "It would be silly to include that in my material," Faulkner said. "Sexuality is not an issue at the municipal level."

Two other gay candidates declined comment.

Rob Joyce ●

Counselling service finally established

ST CATHARINES — After two years of fundraising and organizing, Gay Outreach Niagara has realized its number one goal — a lesbian and gay peer counselling service is up and running. In addition, AIDS information is available to the gay community and the general public.

The local distress centre, the Health Department and sexologist Dr Sheila Nicholson have trained the dozen or so volunteers in active listening skills, AIDS and other sexually-transmitted diseases and sexuality. The volunteers stress they are non-professional but, if necessary, they can suggest referrals.

The AIDS/Gayline is a first for the Niagara Region inasmuch as the service is being provided outside a home setting and is staffed by pairs of volunteers with community-sanctioned skills.

The number? 641-8800 (from Welland, ask the operator for Zenith 30720). Hours of operation are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7pm-11pm. (At other times, a recorded message provides limited information.)

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AIDS conference pushes education

The way society responds to the AIDS crisis will reveal the core of its morals and values.

That was what the Second Annual AIDS Conference heard at its opening session in Toronto November 14.

Allan M Brandt, a Harvard University professor and medical historian who spoke to the opening session said, "Our values shape our ideas about social disease. Educational programs are used (in the schools) ... to promote the fear of sex." He called such programs "anti-sex education."

He said that many people treated venereal disease in the first half of the 19th century as a symptom not a disease. If you got VD it was "a failure of individual control," he said. Brandt said that this same syndrome affected early AIDS patients; the outside straight world said they deserved to get AIDS because they were gay.

"It is like justifying lung cancer because the person smoked," he said.

Brandt said he distrusts public policy on AIDS because government experts under-estimate the difficulty of dealing with the disease. He cited two areas of uncertainty in particular in which officials tend to be overly optimistic: "How soon a cure will be found or how long the government's money will keep coming in."

Brandt worries about government funding programs "that are policies without costs which are rejected when the costs become explicit." He said he favoured spending money on AIDS education, but that he thought the cost would be more than governments are willing to pay.

Dr Catherine Hankins, a member of the National Advisory Committee on AIDS, said the spread of AIDS should be fought by having condom machines in schools from junior high up and by comprehensive sex education from the age of eight.

She called for advertising of condoms on radio and television and a wide-ranging new research program on AIDS and education.

Hankins also called for the closing of all bathhouses. This was challenged by Phil Shaw of the AIDS Committee of Toronto. He said ACT does not support this move because the bathhouses are a good place to reach men with educational programs. Also included in the conference was a seminar entitled Hot and Healthy. Loree Rose of Vancouver, better known as "The Condom Lady," said condom promotion should stress the

sexual but still safe aspects of safe sex.

She talks about the need for "condomunication" and has a travelling show in Vancouver that aims "to turn people on to the condom." She said that many gay men are now sporting safety pins on their jackets as a sign that they practise safe sex.

Bob Tivey, of AIDS Vancouver said that, when people think of safe sex, they usually feel anxiety or depression.

"You have to think of the positive aspects of safe sex," he said. "It has encouraged dating, encouraged fantasy and legitimized masturbation."

He said what people like about safe sex is: greater intimacy, a sense of brotherhood and the alleviation of the guilt one would feel for not having safe sex.

Tivey also talked of the Stop AIDS Program in which men gather in a private home with a qualified facilitator. The groups of men discuss the question "What is safe sex?" and the emotional impact of the health crisis.

A pilot project may be started in Toronto in the new year, but Kevin Orr of ACT said, "Toronto is too tight-assed for this to work."

Orr said the model needs to be evaluated and Toronto will work with this idea but do something different.

A panel discussion, People with AIDS Speak Out, consisted of PWAs from Toronto and Vancouver and was facilitated by Linda Boyd of ACT.

Chris and Jim, two persons with AIDS, said the most important thing they had to do was make their own funeral arrangements. Chris said it took a great burden off his shoulders and Jim said it gave the opportunity to have the kind of funeral you wanted.

Jim confessed his funeral was going to be a big party, but added that "the Anglican Church might frown on crepe paper on the casket."

Taavi, from Vancouver, said he tried to make having AIDS "a learning experience."

"Besides," he asked, "What else am I supposed to do with it?"

One person commented that the greatest impact of having AIDS is the loss of your future. He asked, "How long before you start to make plans again?"

The PWAs fight fear with the support of friends and support groups, and with a strong sense of humour.

"Before I was diagnosed, my major crises were things like running out of mousse right before a dinner engagement," said Jim, who learned in the spring that he had AIDS.

"I would toss and turn in the night wondering if Certs was indeed a candy mint."

You can get more information and advice about AIDS by calling the following community sources:

St John's: St John's AIDS Information Committee, c/o Wally Upward.....(709) 739-7975
Halifax: Metro Area Committee on AIDS, c/o Gayline.....(902) 423-1389
Montreal: Montreal AIDS Resource Committee/Association des ressources montréalaises sur le SIDA.....(514) 937-7596
 Comité SIDA à Montréal.....(514) 282-9888
Ottawa: AIDS Committee of Ottawa.....(613) 563-4818
Kingston: Kingston AIDS Project.....(613) 549-1232
Niagara Region: AIDS Information Line c/o Gay Outreach Niagara.....(416) 641-8800
Toronto: AIDS Committee of Toronto.....(416) 926-1626
 AIDS Information Line, for a recorded message.....(416) 924-5200
Hamilton: Hamilton AIDS Network for Dialogue and Support.....(416) 528-0854
Kitchener/Waterloo: AIDS Committee of Cambridge-Kitchener-Waterloo and Area, c/o Bill Allen.....(519) 749-0977
London: AIDS Committee of London.....(519) 434-8160
Windsor: AIDS Committee of Windsor.....(519) 256-4244
Thunder Bay: AIDS Committee of Thunder Bay.....(807) 345-8011
Winnipeg: WGCHC AIDS Committee.....(204) 774-4846
Regina: AIDS Regina.....(306) 522-4522
Edmonton: Edmonton AIDS Network.....(403) 424-4767
 AIDS Phone Line.....(403) 429-2437
Calgary: AIDS Calgary.....(403) 262-6446
Vancouver: AIDS Vancouver.....(604) 687-2437
Victoria: AIDS Vancouver Island.....(604) 384-4554

He said, "After my diagnosis, my priorities shifted vastly. They weren't even priorities any more, they were requisites, like how was I going to stay alive for the next week."

All spoke that AIDS had brought a new "intensity" to their lives and most spoke of the benefits they got from educating themselves about AIDS and joining others to fight for their rights.

Grant Ramsay ●

BC to finance Vancouver hospice

VANCOUVER — Good news is on the way for British Columbia AIDS and ARC patients who want the comfort of a hospice specifically designed with their needs in mind.

Health ministry spokesman Ian Smith said the ministry plans to have a 12-bed facility ready by spring. He said the hospice is the first of its kind in Canada and it is currently undergoing extensive renovations to make its atmosphere as home-like as possible.

The location cannot be publicized until its lease and mandatory permits are secured.

"There is official support for the facility," Smith said "with St Paul's Hospital committed to operating and staffing it."

Patients registered at the hospice will automatically be considered admitted into St Paul's Hospital, removing bureaucratic hassles for PWAs who occasionally require the services of a hospital.

Smith said he doesn't foresee any major obstacles to opening the hospice on schedule since there is a high level of inter-government commitment to the project.

He said the specific location under preparation is used for health and social services care already, thereby removing difficulties in obtaining permits.

The ministry has pledged to increase its home services to PWAs meanwhile, by doubling the present number of home care nurses allotted for their care.

It is estimated the hospice will cost the ministry approximately \$1 million per year to operate he

said.

Allen Herbert, president of AIDS Vancouver, welcomed the news saying his organization is relieved to hear that a year's work has paid off. "The hospice can provide a friendly territory with staff and volunteers who are gay sensitized," he said. "If the PWAs don't have the worry of losing their home, we can prolong some people and buy some time for them."

Herbert said AIDS Vancouver has raised \$23,000 for the hospice and is looking at ways the organization can involve itself in the practical and emotional support levels of the operation.

Last October the ministry turned down AIDS Vancouver's proposal of a 25-bed hospice.

Smith commented that their original submission helped the ministry evaluate the kind of patient who would be suitable for hospice care.

Rob Joyce ●

NUMBERS

As of December 1, the Laboratory Centre for Disease Control (LCDC) in Ottawa had recorded a total of 788 adult cases and 17 pediatric cases of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in Canada. This compares with a total of 763 adult cases this past November 3 and a total of 385 cases one year ago.

LCDC figures may lag behind provincial statistics because of delays in diagnosis and reporting.

The current Canadian adult total of 788 cases breaks down as follows:

	Total	Gay or bisexual	
		Cases	Living
Canada	788	663	331
ON	302	284	136
BC	166	157	78
QC	243	156	79
AB	40	35	15
MB	12	12	8
NS	10	9	7
SK	9	8	6
NB	5	1	1
NF	1	1	1

No cases are reported in Prince Edward Island or the Territories. ●



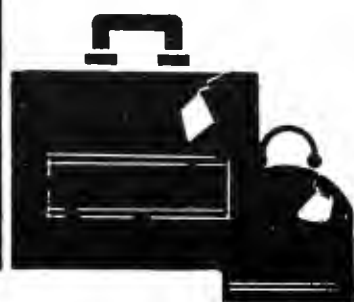
In tune with the times. Bob Tivey of AIDS Vancouver, Loree "The Condom Lady" Rose and Kevin Orr of the AIDS Committee of Toronto do a safe sex ditty at the Toronto AIDS conference.

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A GAY MEN'S LITERARY QUARTERLY



Pope to gays: Drop dead

In a letter to Catholic Bishops, the Church condones gay bashing, attempts to silence internal dissent.

The Vatican has issued a letter to Catholic bishops suggesting that homosexuals are a "public health menace," in an attempt to stifle dissent from the official church position on homosexuality.

The statement, from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith — formerly the promoters of the Inquisition — was approved by the Pope and sent to Roman Catholic Bishops worldwide in October. It was issued just two weeks before a meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the United States.

The letter attempts to hold "advocates" of homosexuality responsible for the spread of AIDS: "Even when the practice of homosexuality may seriously threaten the lives and well-being of a large number of people ... its advocates remain undeterred and refuse to consider the magnitude of the risks involved." Furthermore, it appears to condone violence against lesbians and gay men, stating "neither the church nor society at large should be surprised when violent reactions increase" when "civil legislation is introduced to protect behavior to which no one has any conceivable right."

The statement was condemned by lesbian/gay rights organizations. Jim Bussen, the national president of Dignity (for gay and lesbian Catholics) called the missive a "violent, vile docu-



The Pope and his new-found "friend" on a recent trip to Australia

ment." Don Barrington, of the Gay and Lesbian Atheists and a former Catholic, sees the church as "out to control people. The church has only two reasons for existing: control and money."

It is widely assumed that the statement was issued in response to gay-positive statements from

some leaders within the Catholic church in the US. San Francisco Archbishop John Quinn has referred to homosexual sexual orientation as a "building block" to spiritual fulfillment and has urged lesbians and gay men to respect their "inner secret core." Milwaukee Archbishop Rembert

Weakland has said that God loves lesbians and gay men "as they are."

With this statement, the Vatican is announcing its intention to confront elected officials who attempt to enact legislation to prevent discrimination against lesbians and gay men. It also suggests that the Church hierarchy intends to avoid dealing with the existence of homosexuality within its own rectories, seminaries and convents.

Charles Phillips ●

Excerpt from "Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic church on the pastoral care of homosexual persons"

Although the particular inclination of the homosexual person is not a sin, it is a more or less strong tendency ordered toward an intrinsic moral evil, and thus the inclination itself must be seen as an objective disorder.

It is only in the marital relationship that the use of the sexual faculty can be morally good. A person engaging in homosexual behavior therefore acts immorally.... This does not mean that homosexual persons are not often generous and giving of themselves, but when they engage in homosexual activity they confirm within themselves a disordered sexual inclination which is essentially self-indulgent.

As in every moral disorder, homosexual activity prevents one's own fulfillment and happiness by acting contrary to the creative wisdom of God. The church, in rejecting erroneous opinions regarding homosexuality, does not limit but rather defends personal freedom and dignity realistically and authentically understood.

Increasing numbers of people today, even
continued on page 19

Small gains in Vaal 22 case

Simon Nkoli among 16 still held in South African jail on trumped-up charges

JOHANNESBURG — In the first major breakthrough in the Vaal 22 treason trial, Mr Justice Kees van Dijkhorst dismissed charges against three defendants and granted bail to six more November 27. However, gay anti-apartheid activist Simon Nkoli remains in custody.

Nkoli was arrested in 1984, along with 21 other black leaders, and charged with subversion, treason and conspiracy to murder, as a result of unrest in the Transvaal in response to rent hikes earlier that year. Five government-appointed local councillors were killed in the ensuing violence.

The judge accepted defence arguments to dismiss the case since virtually no evidence was brought against the three, Lazarus More, Mkhambi Malindi and Malaxa Vilakazi, during the course of 11 months of prosecution submissions. Judge van Dijkhorst did not move to release Nkoli although defence council pointed out that the evidence presented against him had either been disproved or was circumstantial. There was no evidence that Nkoli had committed any unlawful act and his presence at a march protesting rent increases was insufficient to establish that he had committed any of the offences with which he

has been charged.

Although disappointed that Nkoli himself was not released, friends in Johannesburg celebrated what they hoped was the beginning of the collapse of the state's case and expressed optimism that Nkoli and other defendants may be released on bail when the trial reconvenes January 21.

The Vaal 22 trial has become pivotal in South African politics since so many important leaders of the United Democratic Front (UDF), the major legal organization fighting against apartheid, are among the accused. The government claims that unrest throughout the country was the result of a conspiracy by members of the UDF while the defence has argued that the disturbances in 1984 were a spontaneous, popular reaction to the oppressive conditions of the apartheid regime.

Meanwhile the Gay Association of South Africa (GASA) has moved to strengthen its opposition to apartheid and apologized for misunderstandings which have arisen around the Nkoli case. A GASA press statement, adopted unanimously at the association's National Committee meeting September 21, declared that "the association unequivocally reaffirms its stand against

apartheid and all other forms of discrimination against individuals and groups of persons; and records the gratitude of the association to Simon Nkoli for his support in respect of the aims of the association and in particular for his steadfast support regarding membership to the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA); and that such gratitude is expressed with emphasis on the role he has played to bring elements of discrimination on every level to the attention of the association, thereby contributing to a unity; and the association accordingly regrets any misunderstanding that has arisen regarding its previous attitude towards Simon and tenders its apology if this attitude has in any way contributed to such misunderstanding or caused him distress."

Kevin Botha, GASA delegate to last summer's ILGA conference in Copenhagen, has also clarified statements attributed to him in the local gay newspaper Exit, which suggested that the ILGA should not support Nkoli because of the murder charges involved. "I have subsequently had long discussions with Simon's attorney and we are agreed that the comments are, in any event, ill-advised due to the unique and peculiar form of

the charges themselves. There is no allegation in the trial that the murders of the five councillors were perpetrated directly by the accused. The State has also been unsuccessful in linking any of the accused to the crime. It appears that the State's case hinges on the rather drawn out presumption that the Vaal 22's commitment to a "wider conspiracy to make the country ungovernable" led to a situation where the murders were committed and that the accused should have foreseen that their alleged actions would lead to the deaths of these councillors."

The GASA National Committee meeting has also moved to initiate a study of the effects of apartheid on the lives of gay people in South Africa, in cooperation with the largely black gay group Rand Gay Organization, and has stated that "the gay community must realize that the struggle for gay rights cannot be separated from the greater struggles for human rights against oppression."

Tim McCaskell ●

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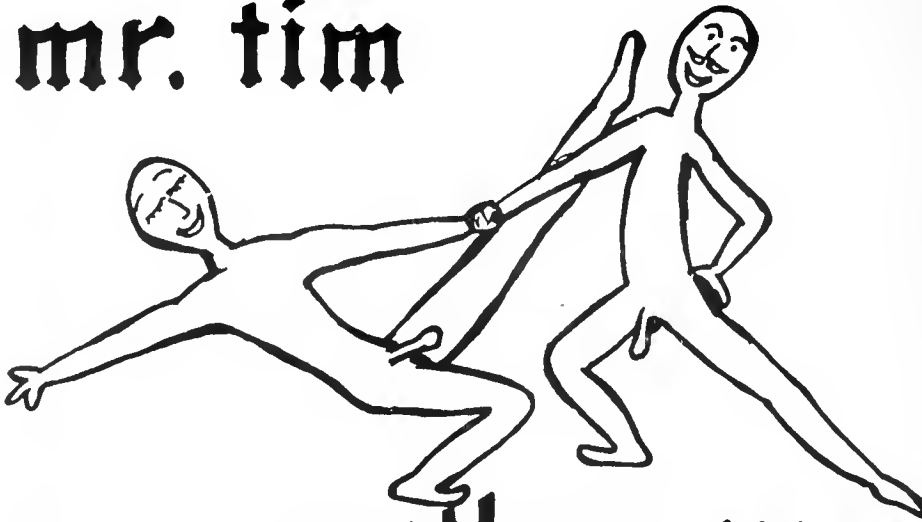
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continued from page 17

within the church, are bringing enormous pressure to bear on the church to accept the homosexual condition as though it was not disordered, and to condone homosexual activity. Those within the church who argue in this fashion often have close ties with those with similar views outside it. The latter groups are guided by a vision opposed to the truth about the human person, which is fully disclosed in the mystery of Christ. They reflect, even if not entirely consciously, a materialistic ideology which denies the transcendent nature of the human person as well as the supernatural vocation of every individual.

Even when the practice of homosexuality may seriously threaten the lives and well-being of a large number of people, its advocates remain undeterred and refuse to consid-

er the magnitude of the risks involved.

The church can never be so callous.

It is deplorable that homosexual persons have been and are the subject of violent malice in speech and action. Such treatment deserves condemnation from the church's pastors when it occurs....

But the proper reaction to crimes committed against homosexual persons should not be to claim that the homosexual condition is not disordered. When such a claim is made and when homosexual activity is consequently condoned, or when civil legislation is introduced to protect behaviour to which no one has any conceivable right, neither the church nor society at large should be surprised when other distorted notions and practices gain ground, and irrational and violent reactions increase. ●

No harm in asking?

Kentucky sodomy statute ruled unconstitutional

LEXINGTON — Giving a boost to the state-by-state judicial challenges to state sodomy laws, a county judge has ruled that Kentucky's sodomy statute is unconstitutional.

Fayette District Judge Lewis Paisley dismissed the case against Jeffrey Wasson who, along with four others, was arrested in downtown Lexington for solicitation for sodomy. The charges against Wasson were the result of an undercover investigation conducted by police officers who were wired for sound. The officers strategically positioned themselves in a parking lot and chatted up passers-by.

Although Judge Paisley did not rule on the constitutionality of the state's solicitation statute, he *did* rule that, if Wasson couldn't be convicted of the "crime" of sodomy, then solicitation for sodomy would not be a criminal act. The judge rejected the government's reliance on *Bowers versus Hardwick* (the US Supreme Court decision refusing to strike down Georgia's sodomy statute as a violation of the federal constitutional right of privacy).

In striking down the law, Judge Paisley stated "The statute seeks to regulate the most profoundly private conduct impermissibly invading the privacy of the citizens" of the state of Kentucky.

Paisley based his decision on the privacy protections contained in Kentucky's state Constitution, stating that "judicial construction of the Federal Constitution in no way limits the rights and protections of the State Constitution."

Although the case was dismissed against Wasson, the state prosecutor has appealed to a higher court. Wasson's council, American Civil Liberties Union attorney Ernesto Scorsone, told TBP that he expects the case may eventually reach the Kentucky Supreme Court.

Another blow was struck against such sodomy laws when the US Supreme Court declined to consider the appeal to an Oklahoma court's decision to eliminate that state's sodomy statute. That decision however only applies to heterosexual sodomy. It explicitly left open the question of whether the statute would be invalid in a case of homosexual sodomy.

Police prosecution of sodomy laws continues to give courts opportunities to strike them down. In Massachusetts two men were recently charged with violation of Chapter 272, section 34 of the Penal Code which prohibits Sodomy and Buggery and Crimes Against Nature. (The ancient statute dates back to the 1600s and no one can ever remember it being enforced.) According to the defendant's lawyer, Springfield attorney Peter Smith, the police claim that the men were completely naked and that their bodies were smeared with motor oil. Springfield police declined to comment on the case.

Judicial challenges to sodomy statutes continue in Texas, Nevada, and Louisiana. ●

ACLU endorses marriage

Legal recognition of same-sex relationships urged

NEW YORK — The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) became the first mainstream civil rights organization in the US to endorse lesbian and gay marriage.

The national board of the ACLU voted October 19 to adopt a policy statement calling for legal recognition of same-sex relationships. It is expected that the ACLU will now increase its efforts to gain formal, legal recognition of the economic relationships between same-sex couples in such matters as income tax regulations, insurance, visitation and next-of-kin rights (when a lover is incapacitated, for example). The strongly worded

resolution states that this change in the law is "imperative for the complete legal equality for lesbians and gay men."

Nan Hunter, Director of the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, explained to TBP that "legal recognition of lesbian and gay marriage is a long-range objective which is fully consistent with the legal battles the ACLU has fought and continues to fight," which include the Kentucky sodomy law challenge and the case of Sharon Kowalski, a disabled lesbian whose lover, Karen Thompson, has been barred from visiting her. ●

l'espoir

N° 21 Janvier 1986 150 FB 25 FF 5 \$
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Nambla Bulletin; North American Man-Boy Love Association, Box 174, Midtown Stn, New York, NY 10018 USA.

Philius, Die Zeitschrift für Pädophilie; Postfach 110

765, D-1000 Berlin 1, West Germany.

Libido, Zeitschrift für eine befreite Sexualität; Postfach 3216, CH-8031 Zurich, Switzerland.

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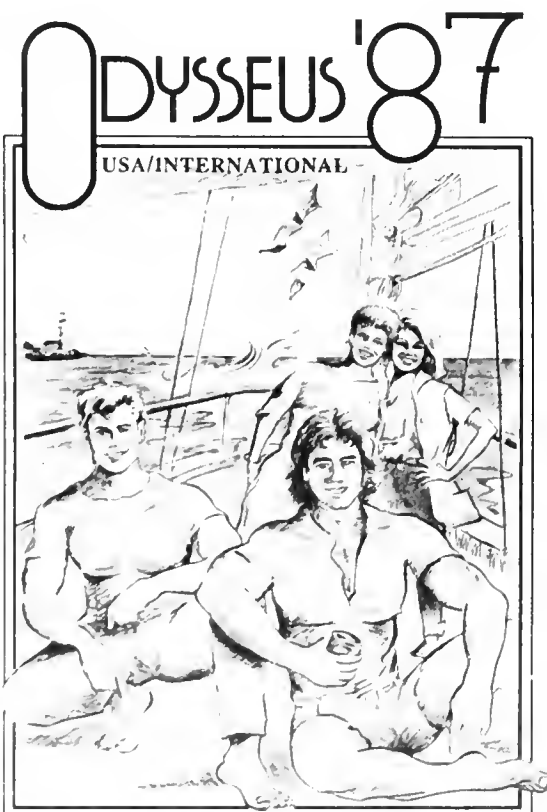
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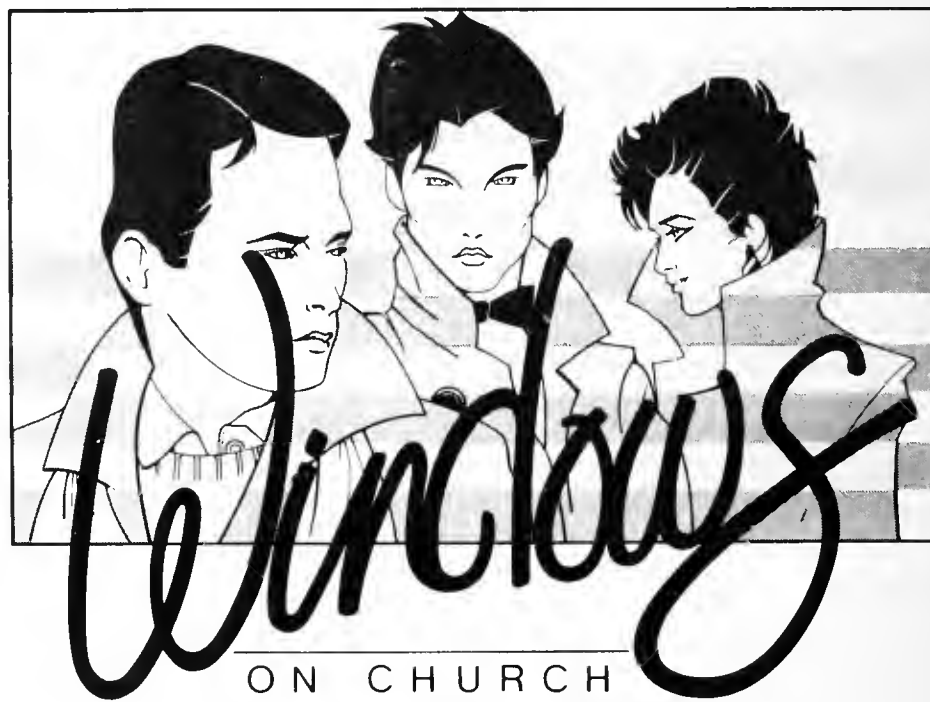
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News on safer-sex education

US Surgeon General: Teach gay teenagers how to use condoms

LONDON — The British government has announced the establishment of a new health education authority within the National Health Service. This follows the announcement of a £20 million campaign to educate the British public about AIDS and safe-sex practices.

The campaign will include posters and advertisements placed in the major media, and a special campaign directed at youth. The government also plans to deliver safe-sex pamphlets to every British household. The Roman Catholic Bishops have already voiced their objections, condemning the advisory suggesting the use of condoms.

But positive representations of homosexuality are still condemned by the British government. Education Secretary Kenneth Baker denounced



Photo: Horan — Picture Group

Fundamentalist Koop: "Sex education in schools must include information on ... homosexual relationships"

Jenny Lives with Eric and Martin, a Danish children's book that depicts a relationship between two men positively, in a letter to the Inner London Education Authority. He complained that the book, "lacks in its approach to the moral and other issues of homosexuality...."

In the United States, Surgeon General C Everett Koop, an evangelical Christian and leading "right-to-life," has surprised many people by endorsing instruction to gay teenagers on the proper use of condoms. His report on sex education in the US began with the statement that "Many people, especially our youth, are not receiving information that is vital to their future health because of our reticence in dealing with the subjects of sex, sexual practices, and homosexuality."

The strong statement of the Surgeon General (best known for warning "that smoking may be dangerous to your health") which urges the teaching of sex education "at the lowest grade possible" will likely have a major impact on sex education in US schools. He argued that, "There is no doubt that we need sex education in schools and that it include information on heterosexual as well as homosexual relationships... so that children can grow up knowing the behavior to avoid to protect themselves."

Organizations in the US, from NYC's Gay Men's Health Crisis to Planned Parenthood, quickly came out in strong support of the top US health official's recommendations.

The National Academy of Sciences has published a 390-page report entitled *Confronting*

AIDS which calls for an all-out education campaign aimed at the young and minorities. The report urges "the most wide-ranging and intensive efforts ever made against an infectious disease."

A poll conducted for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation has revealed that gay men are continuing to modify their sexual behaviour. The results of the poll:

- 20 percent reported being celibate
- 56 percent said they drank less alcohol, and 74 percent said they had reduced or ceased their use of recreational drugs
- 9 percent reported engaging in "unsafe" sexual practices
- 85 percent said they knew someone who had been diagnosed with AIDS
- nearly 75 percent of those polled had contributed either time or money to AIDS organizations.

In other safer-sex education news, the Film Board of Review of Queensland, Australia, has refused to permit the educational, safe-sex video *Do The Right Thing* to be screened or distributed. The video, made by members of the Safe Sex Working Group of the AIDS Council of NSW, was prohibited as "an objectionable film" according to a spokesperson for the Board.

Chair of the National AIDS Task Force Professor David Penington has condemned this withholding of health information. He is advocating instruction in the proper use of condoms for all young people in Australia. He appealed to parents to "put their own scruples to one side when it comes to informing their children about AIDS."

make connections with other people of colour. "Organizing is at a high level in the US," he said. "It's an inspiration for those of us doing work in other parts of the world."

The next International People of Colour Conference is scheduled to take place in Toronto in 1988. ●

Meese plans local anti-porn attacks

WASHINGTON, DC — US Attorney General Edwin Meese has come up with a new seven-point federal program to fight porn. His plan is to encourage law enforcement agencies to use local laws to "combat this evil most effectively." A campaign of intimidation is proposed to "launch a most aggressive assault on the enemy of society." The results of his extensive review of porn have lead him to the conclusion that "it is critically important that those at the state and local levels... act to remove this vulgar stain from their own neighborhoods and communities." To assist the local efforts, a "Center for Obscenity Prosecution" will be established to effect a "coordinated effort against the traffickers of these sordid materials."

One is reminded of Kurt Vonnegut's testimony at the National Coalition Against Censorship's public information briefing. "It is not enough that sex crimes of every sort are already against

the law. It is up to our attorney general to persuade a large part of our citizenry that even the most awful sex crimes are perfectly legal because of the permissiveness of our Constitution. Only then will an aroused and thoroughly misinformed citizenry rise up in righteous wrath to smash the First Amendment — and many other only slightly less offensive parts of the Bill of Rights." ●

The full text of the testimony of Kurt Vonnegut and others is contained in The Meese Commission Exposed, available from the National Coalition Against Censorship; 132 West 43rd St; New York, NY 10036 for \$3.00 (US).

An operator with a direct line to God

SACRAMENTO, CA — The Reverend Jerry Sloan, who recently collected \$8,892 from Jerry Falwell (see December TBP), is back in the news again. When he rang the information operator in Washington DC, all he wanted was the telephone number of the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force. But what he got was a sermon on the evils of homosexuality. The operator asked Sloan if he knew what the Bible says about homosexuality and then launched into a discourse about the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah.

The area code is 202, and there is no charge from Canadian telephones. ●



Secretary Fowler: Promises increased funding for international AIDS research

"However socially difficult it may be, parents must be willing to allow such education, or the infection will start to spread among young people who do not share their parents' traditions and values, and who are kept ignorant about the risks they may be taking," he said.

In other AIDS news, researchers from the biomedical division of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories have announced that they have developed a new test to detect the early stages of immune system damage. Dr Robert Smith explained that the test, which takes only 20 minutes, is performed by diluting a blood sample and testing for reaction to an enzyme called DPP-IV.

In Richmond, California, Bio-Rad Laboratories announced it has obtained some positive results in the development of a blood test to determine whether someone who is infected with HIV will develop AIDS. ●

World News Credits

World news was compiled by Charles Phillips and Chris Bearchell from the following sources: OutRage (Australia); Gay Community News, Bay Windows (Boston); Steven Hunt (Chicago); The Advocate (Los Angeles); New York Native (New York City); Bay Area Reporter (San Francisco); The Washington Blade (Washington, DC). ●

KEEP US ON TOP OF THE WORLD



The Body Politic needs someone to write a monthly column. The information comes from contacts with AIDS organizations worldwide, and from the lesbian and gay press.

If you might be interested, please give Andrew a call at 364-6320.



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Sun. Aug. 20 - Gay Picnic
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Above: Toronto's first festival of gay pride in 1972 shows a community rapidly coming together. Note the mid-August date, rather than the current Stonewall anniversary in June. This poster also predates the pink triangle liberation symbol (its lambda-on-maple-leaf is unique) and the expression "lesbian and gay." **Below left:** In the 1980s, the arts became an ever-more-potent

force in lesbian and gay liberation. The first big-budget Hollywood gay pic, *Making Love*, premiered in 1982. That may not seem so long ago, but remember that the now-omnipresent word "yuppie" was never once used to describe the well-groomed, affluent characters in the film.

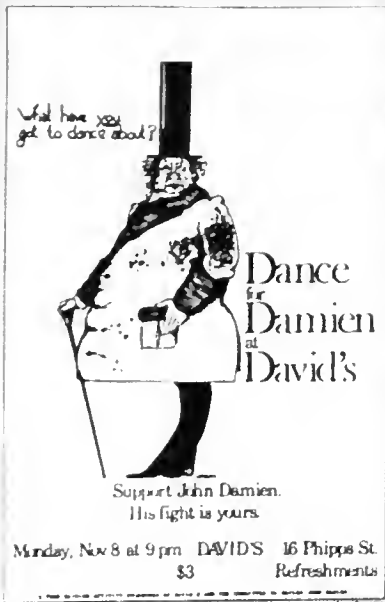


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Above: A classic youth, with a solemn wave towards history, announces the beginning of gay liberation in eastern Canada. The 1971 poster called students and staff out to meetings of the University of Toronto Homophile Association. The only earlier gay organization in Canada, Vancouver's Association for Social Knowledge, existed from 1964 to 1969.

AGE OF CONSENT

16

Equal Rights For Gays

Off the WALL

**How did we get the message out?
Richard Summerbell finds a selection from 15
years of gay postering that tells part of the story....**



COMING TOGETHER

A Women's Sexuality Conference
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Above: Coming Together, a women's sexuality conference, was held in 1985 in Toronto. This appropriately artistic poster was designed by Cyndra MacDowell. **Far left:** Canada's most protracted and bitter fight for gay civil rights is still dragging on in 1986. This poster from a decade ago announces a fundraising dance for the Committee to Defend John Damien. Damien was fired in 1975 from his job with the Ontario Racing Commission for being gay. Now battling a serious illness as well as an unrepentant government, Damien still needs our help. **Left:** In 1985, New Zealand was in the midst of a campaign to legalize gay male sex. Even the supporters of the move debated whether the age of consent should be 16, as for heterosexuals, or a more "protective" 18. Gay organizations lobbied to make the sixteenth birthday a day of celebration — in 1986, their birthday wish came true.

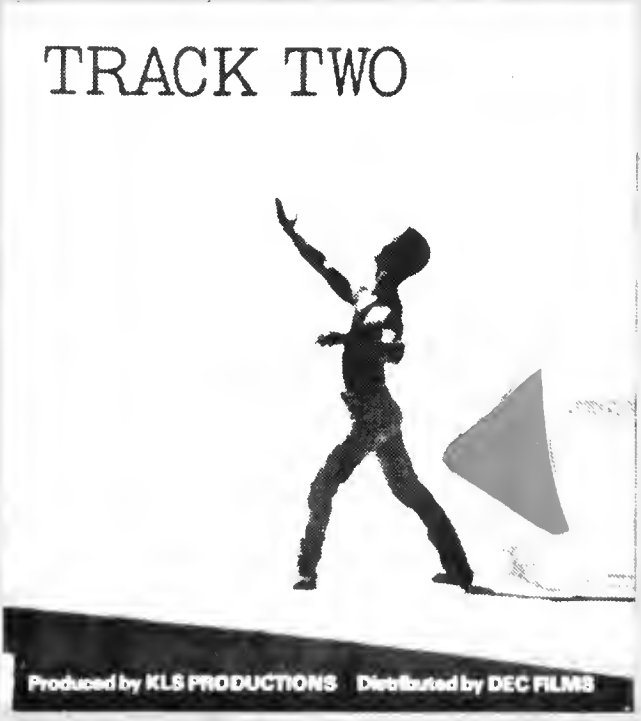


Above: "Let's play the election game with HOMOS," shouts this poster from Paris. We don't know its exact origins, but it seems to exhort gays to get out to the polls, perhaps to vote for François Mitterrand's Socialists. The cartoon, by world-famous Gai Pied cartoonist Copé says: 1) "I'm a candidate." 2) "There are four million of us in France." 3) "With proportional representation we would get thirty representatives." 4) "Thirty representative ducks?" 5) "Heavens, no — homosexuals!" 6) "In my day, we put them in the ovens!" **Right:** Gay activist and businessman

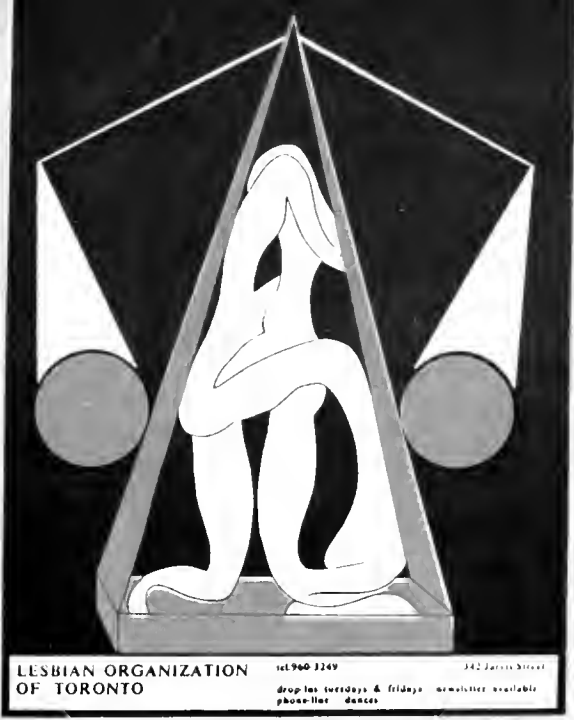
George Hislop had a close shot at being a Toronto alderman in 1980. His high-profile campaign galvanized both homosexuals and homophobes. This is the multilingual version of his election poster.



Above: Vancouver's Gay Alliance Towards Equality took on the Vancouver Sun in 1974 when the Sun attempted to exclude a classified ad for GATE's newspaper, Gay Tide. The Supreme Court of Canada eventually ruled that it had a right to do so. So determined was the Sun to stop the "gay tide" that it forbade its writers the use of the word "gay" to refer to homosexuals; on the other hand, it permitted columnist Doug Collins regular use of the word "queer."



Above: Dancer Pei Lim is featured in this 1982 poster for the movie Track Two. The movie documented the struggles of the Toronto gay community against the sledgehammer tactics of the Metropolitan Toronto Police — particularly during and after the 1981 bath raids. **Right:** Perhaps the world's best safe-sex poster, this one comes courtesy of AIDS Vancouver in 1986. The boys themselves are hot, and even the soft, gently curving head of the safety pin seems to be full of erotic tension.



Above: The Lesbian Organization of Toronto blossomed in 1976/77 and soon began to rent its famous house at 342 Jarvis St. In September 1979, however, its newsletter ran a disturbing headline: "We have an empty house." The editorial beneath complained that women seemed to prefer the bars. Despite the continued enthusiasm of some members, the organization folded in 1980. **Above right:** Metamorphosis, Saskatoon's annual autumn festival of lesbian and gay culture, will have its tenth anniversary in 1987. Among the notable performers featured at past Metamorphoses: Heather Bishop, David Sereda, Sheila Gostick, and David Ramsden. This poster is from the 1980 festival.



Our thanks to the Canadian Gay Archives for their assistance in selecting and identifying these posters.

WISH-FUL THINKING

The traditional gift for a 15th anniversary is crystal. So we thought a suitable way for The Body Politic to celebrate its 15th birthday would be a bit of gazing into a crystal ball.

We wrote to dozens of our favourite people of the last 15 years — contributors, celebrities, friends and arch-enemies — and asked them what their hopes, expectations and dreams for the *next* 15 years of gay life would be. We even sent one to everybody's favourite queen, Her Majesty Liz II. (Her response must be stuck in the mailbox around the corner from Buckingham.)

In particular, we asked what they would wish for if Lindsay — you know, the patron fairy of lesbians and gay men everywhere — landed at the foot of their bed in the middle of the night, and handed them two fairy wands: a regular-size one, and a tiny, two-pixiewatt one.

A big wish and a small wish. And we made things a bit more difficult by barring things like a cure for AIDS and comprehensive gay rights, those of course being things we *all* desire.

We thank the people in the following pages for their time and thoughts. May their wishes all — well, most of them — come true!



Big Wish: That all those people who wish we didn't exist would realize I don't want to make anybody else gay—I just want them to let *me* be gay.

Small Wish: That all Ontario Tory legislators, Ken Campbell, Hudson Hilsden, REAL Women, Ronald Reagan, the Pope, and _____ (fill in the blank) would be kissed by an enchanted faggot or dyke — and like it. (And let them deal with the consequences.)

*Edna Barker, Writer/Editor
Toronto, Ontario*

I wish I could have waited several more years before acquiring the habit of reading the death notices in Toronto papers. That's something older, middle-aged people are supposed to do before the crossword puzzle, or so I'd thought. While there's no denying the fact that AIDS has united our community, I'd rather have that unity exclusively displayed in protest rallies or, better yet, in "Lesbian/Gay Pride Day" parades.

Secondly, I wish there were more Harvey Milk-style activists who would urge us to come out of the closet. I, as much as anyone, know how difficult that is (there were times I wouldn't even have dared sign my name to a submission such as this). Now, as much as possible, I'm a "political faggot" as some of my friends apparently call me sarcastically. Here's hoping they read With Downcast Gays! In short, we need a greater political conscience.

*Kenn Chaplin, Gay Activist
St Catharines, Ontario*



As I sit here trying to wrack my brains for something really big to wish for, my mother is sitting on my bed (the only warm place in the barn where we live) reading her mail, well, filling out junk mail prize forms actually. My BIG WISH is that all gay people had a mother like mine who is loving, accepting and as excited about my new boyfriend as I am (well almost).

My tiny wish is that my big one would come true.

*Matt Gould, Artist
Mayerthorpe, Alberta*

To be able to exist in a world that can admit to being sexual. To live in a society that is more open and tolerant of new possibilities and variety. To co-exist with in a gender blur that permits and embraces freedom of speech, creative expression and encourages human and equal rights. I want challenges, excitement and alternatives to our current dominant culture and its stereotypical codes of behaviour.

*Paul Wong, Artist
Vancouver, British Columbia*

I wish for all the fairies, pansies, sissies, queens, queers, fist-fuckers, B&Ders, S&Mers, water sporters, leather queens, vinyettes, rubber queens, transvestites, transsexuals, butches, bitches, femmes, bull dykes, biker dykes, and radical lesbian feminists—for these are our exotic fruits.

P.S. You can't live on Wonder Bread all your life. Or can you?

*Evergon, Artist
Ottawa, Ontario*

I'd like to put a little bit of Sex Magick in everyone's life.

And I wish The Body Politic would start paying its contributors!

My best wishes for another 15 years. . . .

*Ian Young, Writer/Poet
Toronto, Ontario*



For some reason (or several) I have agonized over your request to name two wishes for the gay community in the next fifteen years. It's difficult, perhaps impossible, to stay away from AIDS as a focal point. In New York City we are immersed in AIDS to the exclusion of almost all else. This is frightening because there is no way to avoid this situation yet our strength is being sapped away from equally important issues. Vibrant, politically active people are behaving like the walking wounded because their friends are dying daily. I love this community.

For a small wish, I wish The Body Politic fifteen more years of reporting, arguing, entertaining and leadership. For my big wish I want the story of this epidemic told to the world so that everyone will know what brave people we have lost and how many dared

so much that others may live. I really want, when this nightmare is finally over, to see the people I love come back as though they had just been away for a little while. I know I can't have that but there's something I can have. I'm only forty years old and I feel like a very old man whose friends have all died. I want eighteen year olds to know that not one of us regrets our lives for an instant. And I want them to spit in the face of this illness and go ahead proudly proclaiming that this cause we fight for is just. I want them to know that the idea of gay liberation is deathless. And then the people we have lost will not have died in vain.

Happy Birthday, darlings.

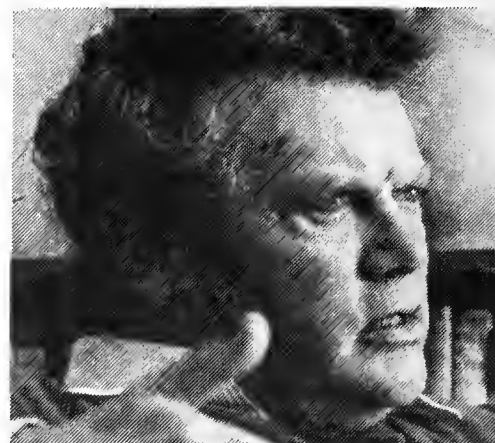
*Vito Russo, Film Writer
New York, New York*

We may not have a cure for AIDS yet but through education about safer sex we can go a very long way to wiping out this epidemic. Yet because of moralistic anti-sex and anti-gay attitudes, governments and media are reluctant to provide this information. They don't wish to be seen to be promoting gay or teen sex so instead, through their near silence, they promote the spread of AIDS.

I would like to see condoms *freely* available everywhere and I would like to see information about safer sex disseminated on television and in newspapers, homes, schools and workplaces. This is my big wish, though it seems a crime that I have to wish it at all.

My small wish is simply that gay people everywhere would stop *wishing* and get off their asses and out of their closets and start *demanding*. Since there is no patron fairy we're all going to have to make our own dreams come true.

*Danny Cockerline, Gay Activist
Toronto, Ontario*

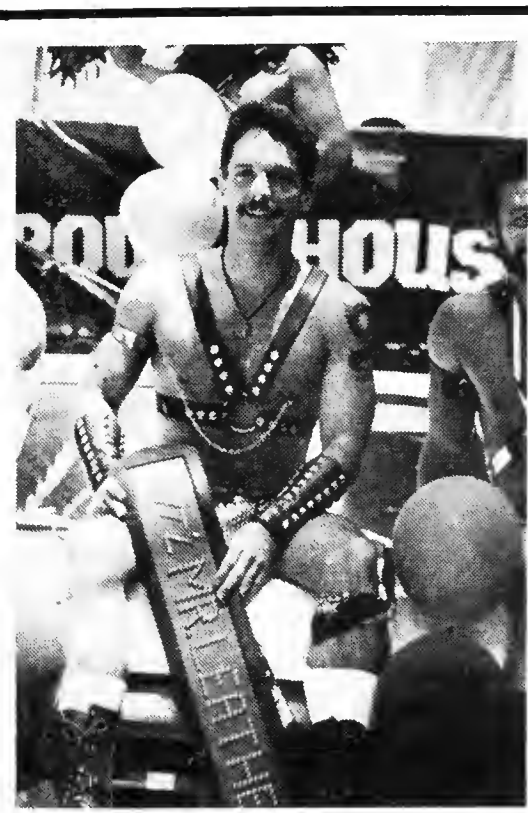


My BIG wish for fifteen years hence is:

That the gay community across Canada grows up sufficiently to realize that it must swallow its psychological antipathies between its gay men and lesbian constituents if it is to properly enrich itself and have something to teach the country at large.

My small wish is that all those gay activists who think that to advance gay rights and gay values one must be Leftist in one form or another, learn that the genitals are apolitical, and that compassion, tolerance and courage are not the prerogative of just one side of the barricade. Nor is talent.

*David Watmough, Writer
Vancouver, British Columbia*



Wish Number One: Which is really two in one. I wish Democratic and Republican politicians in the USA would define *precisely* what they mean by "the mainstream." (I'm not sure how severely this notion afflicts gay Canadians.) If the gay movement is a Public Relations Campaign, no more, no less, then we can cleverly claim The Mainstream for ourselves, and dump our enemies in the backwaters. But if The Mainstream means the corporations, the churches, and the two US

ruling parties, then The Mainstream is a sewer and a number of us don't share the urge to submerge.

I also wish certain gay theorists in North America and Europe would cease imposing a system of conceptual apartheid which divides "constructionists" against "essentialists." Binary thinking is not dialectical thinking, and so we see theorists with Marxist loyalties taking conservative turns. The activism of the mainstreamers reflects a slavish respect for Public Opinion, and a lack of concern for particular persons. The theorizing of the "constructionists" reflects their idolatry of Marx and Foucault, and a remoteness from gay realities and identities. On both planes, the gay movement has reached dead ends. Dear Queers, take a deep breath and begin again.

Wish Number Two:
*Levi/leather/latex queen,
 handsome, built, cut, 31,
 seeks punk hunk Boy Toy for a scene.
 If your desires and daydreams run
 To dildoes, tit-clamps, ropes and chain,
 pleasure on the other side of pain,
 and a Master who may Command
 his Slave to take the Upper Hand,
 Your pic gets mine. Foreskin a plus,
 likewise a brain. Anarchs preferred,
 but Leninists who have been cured
 will not be spurned. For rhyme's sake:
 "truss."*

*Novices welcome, don't be shy.
 REPUBLICANS NEED NOT APPLY.*

**Scott Tucker, International Mr Leather 1986
 1916 Lombard St, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19146**



This is my big wish. You see, I had this dream. In the dream I'm about forty, and I'm on the bus, and as we pull into the bus stop I see two very handsome young men waiting for the bus. They are holding hands. As the bus pulls in the blonde turns to the dark one and gives him a big wet kiss, and a last hug, and then he gets on the bus, and the dark one waves and he follows the bus right down the street with his big dark eyes. Lindsay, could you fix it so that when I'm forty-three no one on the bus cares much or even notices what these boys are doing, because fifteen years should be just about long enough for everybody in this city to forget the time when two men in love or lust or whatever was cause for comment - ? And if you can't fix that, fix it so that these boys have the nerve to do it even if everyone is watching, ok?

And now for my little wish. Please, please, please, when I get to heaven, let me sit down to dinner with Fassbinder, Oscar Wilde, John Gilbert, the model who sat for Veronese's Meeting of Darius with Alexander (the one in green) and Mr Malcolm Scott, who played Princess Salomé in drag to a packed house at the London Pavilion in 1903.

**Neil Bartlett, Writer/Drag Activist
 London, England**

I am writing on the evening that the Ontario Legislature passes an amendment to the Human Rights Code prohibiting discrimination against homosexuals, and in a sense I feel as if I just got my wish. But there's something else. Right at this moment, I am thinking in a longing way of the man I love — Gerry Hunt — (who for this year is 3000 miles away in England). At this instant, I wish him here. And my wish for lesbians and gay men everywhere is that someday they may share the love for someone else in the way that Gerry and I share our love for one another.

**David Rayside, Associate Professor
 University of Toronto**



Gazing into crystal balls to predict the future of the gay and lesbian community in the year 2001, I see major progress but also considerable struggle and pain. Legal protection against discrimination will be extended through human rights legislation and the Charter will prove to be a powerful weapon for equality, forcing gutless politicians to change homophobic laws and policies. But, the threat of an extreme right-wing backlash directed at the gay and lesbian community is very real.

AIDS will continue to kill in greater numbers and persons with AIDS may indeed be isolated and treated like lepers.

Alcoholism will continue to take its devastating toll on the gay and lesbian community. Increasingly, the gay community will demand, not just the right to privacy, but the right to publicly show warmth and affection, to walk hand in hand with one's lover through a city park. Closets will be broken down, and of course the Body Politic will still be there challenging, kicking, informing and entertaining as always. Congratulations on fifteen great years!

**Svend Robinson, Member of Parliament
 Burnaby, British Columbia**

For the veterans of the liberation movements of the past two decades, I wish for renewed hope, optimism, righteous anger, dedication, satisfaction and joy. For those who are fresh to the battle, I wish for an appreciation of our history and for an open-mindedness when tallying our wins and defeats. For all of us, I wish for the peace of mind that comes from doing all we can and the thrill that comes from trying.

**Connie Smith, Radio Host
 "Rubymusic," Vancouver, British Columbia**

My big wish is for life before AIDS.

My small wish is for a date with Helmut Berger, as he was in 1969.

**Robert K Martin, Professor/Writer
 Montreal, Quebec**

I have only one wish: I don't want people to be frightened ever again.

**Christopher Newton, Theatre Director
 Shaw Festival, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario**

Big Wish: That gay people get a heart.
Small Wish: That gay people get the nerve!
**Michele Belling, Writer
 Seattle, Washington**

Happy birthday BP. You're peppy, confident, brave and important. Stay well.
**June Callwood, Writer/Journalist
 Toronto, Ontario**

Gay Community News's big dream for the next 15 years is for a general swing to the left in gay/lesbian circles without any accompanying tendency towards grimness: more flaunting it, in more cultural styles and languages, by more people; we want all the queers around the globe to come out proud and angry and feeling beautiful, ready to dish any politician who stands in the way of any person's self-determination.

As for our smaller wish, we're hoping to persuade Lindsay the fairy to let us have two: first, financial security so that GCN will look as good as TBP by our 15th birthday (June 1987 — you'd better start soon, Lindsay), and, finally, the prime-time TV sight of Dolly Parton taking off her wig.

**Loie Hayes, Features Editor
 Gay Community News, Boston, Massachusetts**



I can see from the letter sent me on your behalf that you are a comely fairy indeed, and no doubt inclined to wander as your wings might take you. In this respect you must have come across dishy fairies in other lands whose laws would not allow you to co-habit in the same glades. So, for my first wish I hope you will try your best to change the immigration laws in all countries which do not permit same-sex lovers from different countries the same rights to live together as their heterosexual brothers and sisters enjoy, so that nobody will ever have to face the kind of strain which the British government has seen fit to impose on my boyfriend and myself in recent years.

My second wish is much more simple—just that The Body Politic should carry on for at least another fifty years. So, two taps of that dinky little wand please for a Brit fan and his Yankee friend!

**Simon Watney, Writer
 London, England**

Wish Fulfillment Department:

My hope and fondest visionary dream is that the Fag Rag journal would come out more often.

**Fred Greenfield, Writer
 Fag Rag, Boston, Massachusetts**

By the year 2001 let there be no more gay liberation. May it all go away because our aims have been realized. Then, for the next century the world can bask in the creative explosion of homocentric music, literature, art and love that follows.

For my smaller wish... I'd like to see a time when we can earn a living in peace.

**Rob Joyce, Gay Activist
 Vancouver, British Columbia**

It is my fondest hope that before the next
~~15 years expires~~
 15 years expires, somebody will find a cure
 for your particular sexual depravity and the
 market for your disgusting publication will
 disappear.

Love & Kisses

Elaine King
 Claire Hoy
 Columnist, Toronto Sun



Photo credits: Barker: Doug Grenville, Joyce: Daniel Collins, Gould: Simon Muscat, Altman: Sally Sannis, Bartlett: Rick Bébout, Robinson: Philip Hannan, Tucker: Robert Bruzan, Hardy: Gerald Hannon, Hoy: Hugh Wesley (Toronto Sun), Lindsay (illustration): Ian King.



Big wish: That we come to recognize that which is good about us that has come as a direct result of the difficulties we have faced in a homophobic society.

Listening to incidents of "oppression" at a recent gay religious caucus, it struck me that in the scale of oppressions of our time these incidents were not major, and that their effects were not solely negative.

As a child I was quite fat. I had always considered this a major misfortune in my life, and envied my slim, athletic, attractive cousins. I remember walking to town with two friends and having one of them yell "nigger" at a Black our own age on the opposite sidewalk. I, too, experienced the wrench I knew he was experiencing in his gut—I had had "fatty" yelled after me on the street. Today I would not exchange my Black friends, nor my Black adopted daughter, for the popular, slim, childhood I so much wanted at the time. That popular, slim child might have grown into a homophobic racist bigot as did my attractive, slim cousins.

Little wish: Whether evolved or created gay, we are a part of nature and therefore natural. May we find it within ourselves to exorcise the last remnant of internalized homophobia, and cease projecting our feeling of worthlessness on others through phony phone numbers, missed appointments, and constant tardiness. We are all worth more than that!

*J McRee (Mac) Elrod, Gay Activist
 North Vancouver, British Columbia*

That in fifteen years, we will be watching ourselves on TV and in the movies much more often than we are now. People won't even consider suggesting that the love that dare not speak its name should shut up. We will be approaching our fair share of representation in the media, and kids growing up gay in the suburbs will have someplace to turn to find positive images of themselves.

Not only that, but in fifteen years we will see the circulation of the Body Politic outstrip Macleans Magazine, and Gerald Hannon and Ken Popert will have become household names when Barbara Amiel has been long since forgotten.

*Richard North, Gay Activist
 Winnipeg, Manitoba*

The Big Wish: that a good, fast system is found for gay individuals to meet one another.

The Small Wish: that gay people take seriously the need to donate effort and money to gay organizations.

*Chris Vogel, Gay Activist
 Winnipeg, Manitoba*



Richard North (left) with Chris Vogel

My greatest wish is that somewhere in the world right now a child is being born who 15 years hence will wake up some morning and realize he or she is gay and it will be no big deal. My other wish is to see it.

*George Whitmore, Writer/Journalist
 New York, New York*

My big serious wish is that gay men and lesbians will gain control of their own health care delivery services over the next decade. Lindsay, for this to come about you'll have to wave your magic wand very vigorously over the heads of lots of gay and lesbian nurses, social workers, doctors, psychologists, chiropractors, health administrators, receptionists and secretaries, who will have to commit themselves to this goal. Also, lots and lots of us will have to decide to use gay-run health facilities.

For my tiny wish, could you get Joseph Hansen to go back to writing Dave Brandstetter mystery novels?

*Dick Smith, Doctor
 Winnipeg, Manitoba*

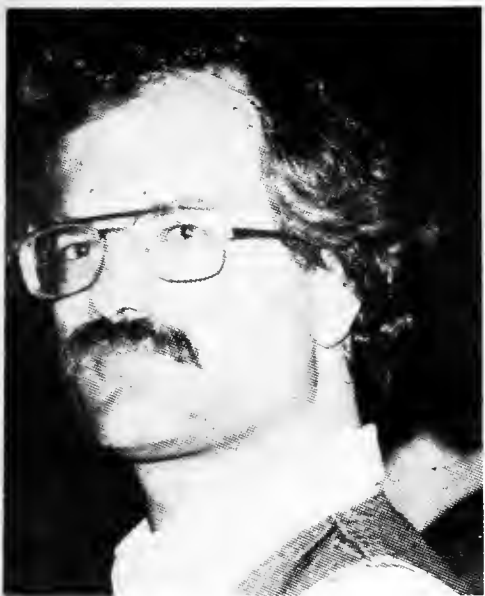
Toronto artist Regan Morris drew his wish (see below)



The struggle for gay rights will be, to the rest of this century, what the struggle for equality for blacks was during the last twenty-five years. It's important to recall that during the early parts of that struggle for equality, and indeed during many of the latter parts, it was hard to perceive any direction, and the leadership was sparse and divided. It was nevertheless the historical moment for that idea.

That does not mean that the exploration of ideas and communication of political information will become less important. On the contrary, the role of the Body Politic will become more crucial in the coming years.

*Clayton Ruby, Lawyer
 Toronto, Ontario*



My hope is that Toronto can learn from its gay community: learn to pull together in the face of its crises; learn to love each other through support, understanding and generosity in tough times; and learn not to tolerate discrimination.

My hope is also that we will be able to look back on AIDS as a crisis which we overcame together and that we remember its lessons.

On a lighter note, forever optimistic, I hope that the publisher of the Toronto Sun will be an immigrant from the third world, a woman, and a lesbian—openly proud of all that she is.

Many, many thanks to all who are, and have been, The Body Politic!
**Jack Layton, Alderman
Toronto, Ontario**

It surprised me when Lindsay appeared and asked for my two wishes — I mean, little me? But when I asked why, Lindsay — who looked suspiciously like Gerald Hannon — at that point replied, "Oh go on James, you're an old movement fart from way back..." which proves that fairies can get to the point when they want to. So, if Lindsay is already looking after the major stuff, I'll be pretty flip.

First, for my little wish, I hope that all those young gay men get busy and grow their moustaches. They can use gel in them if they must be very 80s.

Now for my second wish. In the 50s Perry Como sang about keeping a falling star in your pocket to provide starlight for impromptu sessions of romance on rainy nights. As a member of ACT I want Lindsay to provide a magic condom every time my gay brothers put their hands in their pockets. The starlight is optional, but if Lindsay could manage, it certainly would add a whole new dimension to safe sex!

**James R Tennyson, Piano Technician
Toronto, Ontario**

Regular Issue Wand:

I wish for the final advent of the Indestructable Era, as predicted by the long-lost Gnostic text, The Concept of Our Great Power, which lay buried under the Egyptian desert at Nag Hammadi for the last 1,700 years. This will be great because gay people will be recognized as the current incarnations of Atlantean souls, gathered here to usher in a hyper-spiritual new age of unprecedented happiness for all. As the planetary embodiment of celestial wit and wisdom, we will be accorded Pharonic status. Flying saucers will land, piloted by Enlightened Aliens who will tell us everything we want to know and more. High-tech will become hi-tack when we redecorate the world in our own image. Homophobes will be given a second chance on a moon colony in the suburbs of Uranus, or otherwise face spontaneous immolation when the Ascended Masters descend from the pleroma trailing flames of glory.

All political slogans will be replaced by clarion calls to "lick dick/slurp gash." This is my big wish, and indeed, this is what will someday happen.

My little two-pixiewatt wish? It's for everyone to stay safe and healthy. A small thing to ask of each other. . . right boys?
**Robin Hardy, Writer
New York, NY**

Large Wish: That the guilt homosexuals feel about their sexuality could be redirected to bigotry and violence.

Small Wish: that the sugar plum fairy withdraw from group therapy.
**Jane Rule, Writer
Galiano, British Columbia**

Jane Rule (right) with Donna Deitch, director of Desert Hearts, at Toronto's 1985 Festival of Festivals.



Dear Lindsay:

Your androgynous name reminds me of the 1930s joke about Sydney, who, on discovering she was a dyke left Paris for Florence. . . well, it was funny in 1930 or so.

So Lindsay, the big wish would be that only 10% of the gay people of the world might finally join us in our fight on many fronts. . . it would be almost enough to win.

And the couple of pixiewatts of power goes towards The Body Politic getting a reviewer of women's (i.e. Lesbian) books again. To say we miss Joy Parks is something of a major understatement.

**Barbara Grier, Publisher
Naiad Press, Tallahassee, Florida**

Should Lindsay (place of my birth, Ontario) ever appear at the foot, head, in, or under my bed I wish that:

1. Everyone's self-esteem increases by two quantum leaps in 1987.

2. Someone produces a comprehensive brand-name consumer's guide to sex toys, including the best lube, status tit clamps, and solutions to rust around the cock ring.

3. That cod-pieces and tights come back into fashion for men.

4. That menstruation becomes a sacrament in Christian churches and a necessary condition for ordination.

Whoops that's 4, so credit the last two wishes to Mila Mulroney.
**Blair Johnston, Gay Activist
Ottawa, Ontario**



My Big Wish would be to see the formation of a Canadian Gay Rights Society (for want of a better name at the moment). All gay groups across Canada would, hopefully, join and support this "parent body."

The Society would develop and adopt a Statement of Policy — along the lines of those adopted by the various political parties—with input from gay groups and individuals. In seeking affiliation, groups would be tacitly acknowledging their general agreement with this policy statement.

The Society would co-ordinate and give direction to gay rights activism on all fronts. It would establish committees to deal with such issues as public education, to lobby politicians, to respond to attacks in the media, to address schools or clubs (to mention only a few). A single voice on behalf of all Canadian gay women and men would be a voice to be reckoned with, I believe.

My small wish is that Lindsay and its type would disappear from the gay scene once and for all. Its image does nothing but reinforce the stereotypical image of the effeminate, bubble-brained queer in the minds of the straight world.
**James Egan, Gay Activist
Courtenay, British Columbia**

"Everywhere" seems a lot even for a big wish. So, for gay people in the United States, I wish that in 15 years, we are part of a mass movement for progressive social change that makes the 1960s look like kid stuff. And, on the 30th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, a million citizens of every sexual persuasion will be surrounding the halls of Congress, holding the legislature hostage until every anti-gay law is repealed.

As a little wish, I hope that every gay man and lesbian has precisely the kind of relationship(s) that he or she wants.
**John D'Emilio, Gay Historian
Greensboro, North Carolina**

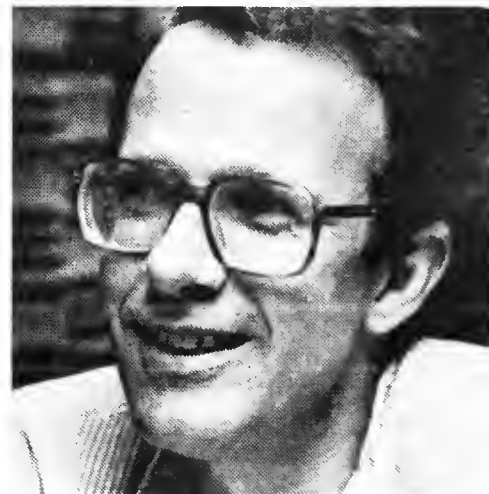
The small wish: Revenue Canada, Taxation, allows the year you come out as a tax deduction, or if you had no taxable income, a cash rebate (retroactive up to and including 1895, the year of Oscar Wilde's imprisonment) equal to the number of books, magazines or newspaper articles on homosexuality read, glanced at or perused, multiplied by the number of times the word fag, dyke or queer (but not poolier) has been uttered in your presence, multiplied by the cost of the most expensive pair of brightly coloured socks you ever purchased, with interest (yes, with compounded interest) and adjusted to reflect the change since 1895 in the median cost of hard-cover novels where the words "purple and gold" are used in the first ten pages.

The big wish: More pleasures, new pleasures, fewer conferences on sex.

**Don Larventz, Freelance writer and gay activist
Vancouver, British Columbia**

My big wish would have to be for AIDS — for a cure, a vaccine, adequate government responses, more compassion from the large world and, above all, an end to the way in which we blame ourselves and each other for the epidemic. As for the small wish: an end to cigarette smoke and the tyranny of disco in gay venues.

**Dennis Altman, Writer
Bundoora, Australia**



My Big Wish for the Gay and Lesbian Community everywhere is that there be more coverage of the Toronto Gay & Lesbian Community in the pages of The Body Politic. I know many people who don't live in Toronto who are constantly wanting to know more about what is happening in Toronto and they don't find it in The Body Politic, a magazine based and published in this big city. They don't have access to Xtra and thus I feel (so do they) that they are being denied valuable information.

My Little Wish is that each heart of each person who reads this opens itself a wee bit more to receive and give a bit more love from and to everyone around us.

**Dennis Findlay, Gay Activist and baker
Toronto, Ontario**

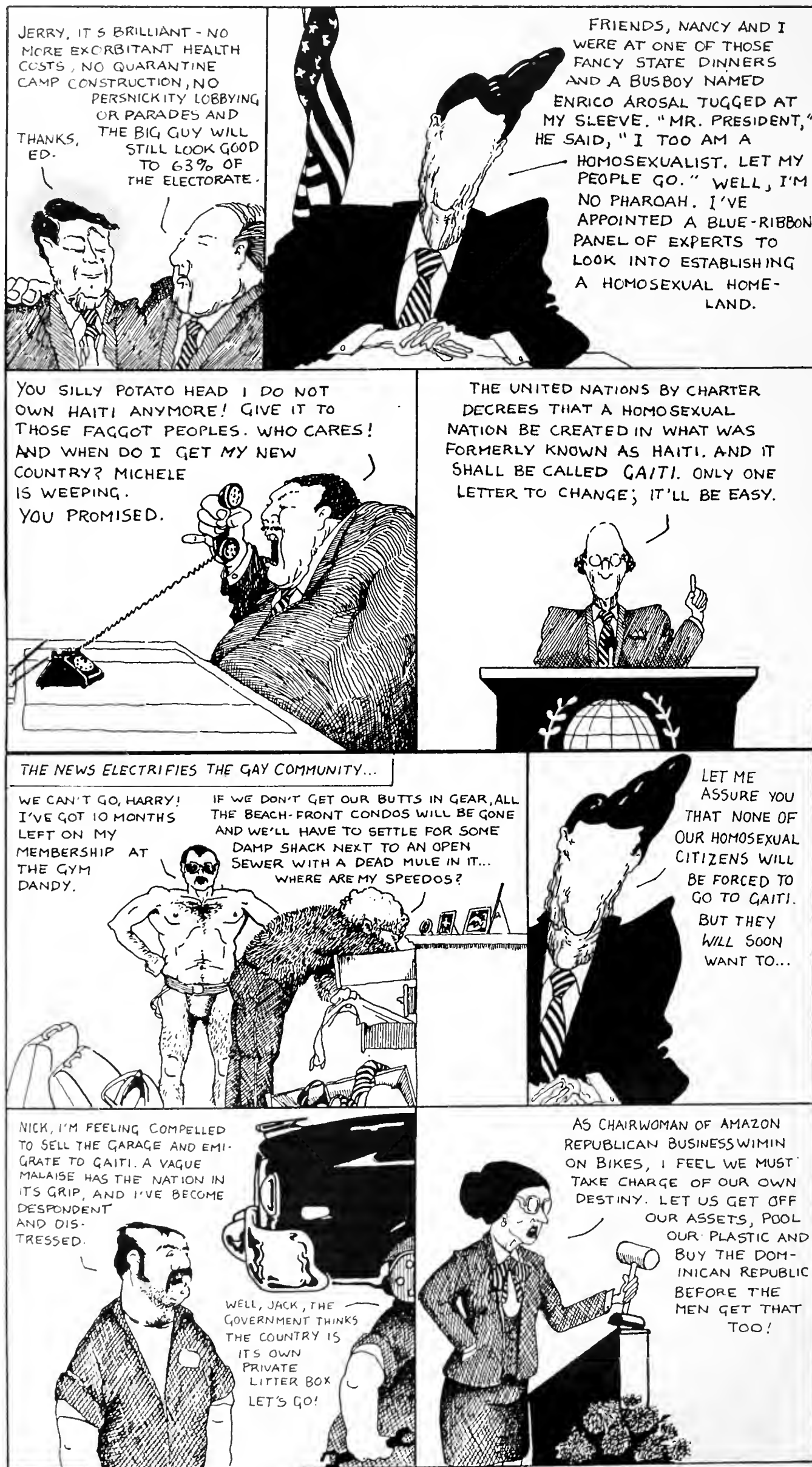
My big wish for the coming years involves self-identity for gay men and public identity for lesbians. We gay men tend to think of ourselves as boys. We can't afford that sort of passive luxury. Of course all men remain boys in a way. But in a hostile world we owe it to ourselves and our community to be strong, decisive, aware and moral adults. Gay women traditionally struggle with the problem of public invisibility, but it hasn't always been that way. Consider Europe in the twenties, for example. What is needed is a large national or international lesbian organization, no matter how generic. Numbers mean power and visibility. There should also be a classy large-circulation lesbian magazine.

My little wish is simply that all of us take the time to know our own heroes and heroines of the present and past. We have been blessed with so many.

**Jerry Rosco, Writer
New York, New York**

Homoland, O my Homoland

*Our fondest dream? Everyone else's most terrifying nightmare?
Follow Gary Ostrom as he charts the history of the planet's newest nation....*

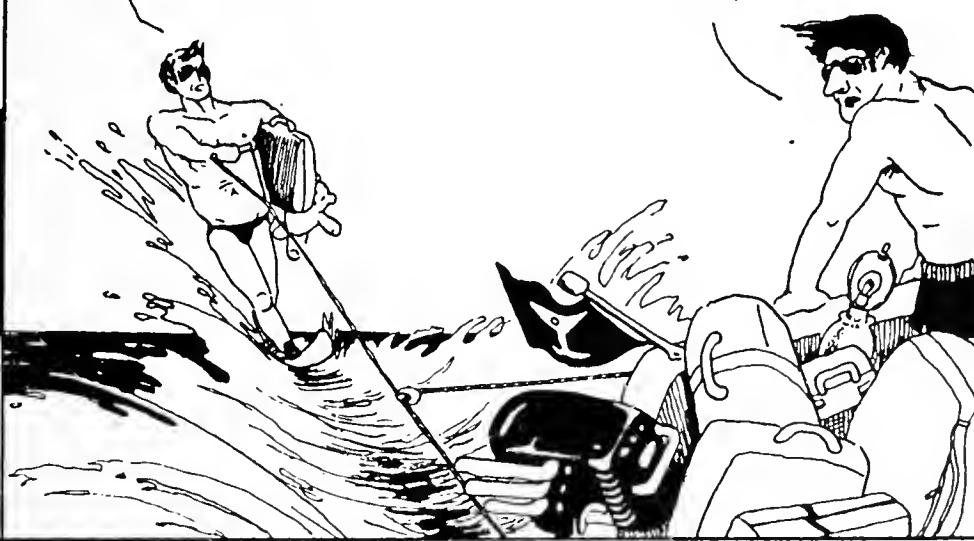


THE CARIBBEAN IS A-TWINKLE TO-NIGHT AS HORDES OF GAY PEOPLE IN EVERYTHING FROM 200-FT YACHTS TO LITTLE BLUE WATER-WINGS SEEK TO CIRCUMVENT NEW LAWS SEVERELY LIMITING THE EXPORT OF CASH, FURNITURE AND YARDGOODS.



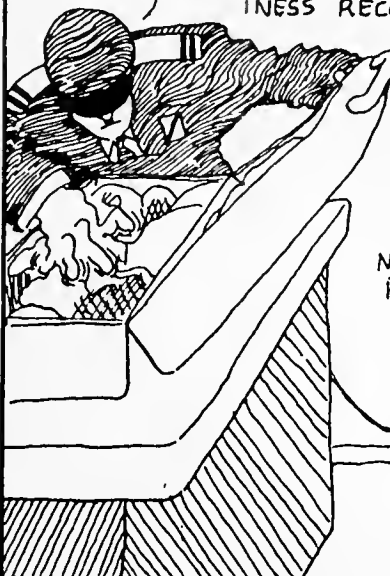
JOEL! YOU CAN'T LET THAT STUPID LITTLE DOG DRIVE THE GODDAM BOAT!!!

SHE'S NOT THAT STUPID, JOHN, AND SOMEONE HAS TO SPOT... TAKE A RIGHT AT CUBA, MUFFIN!!



AT EMIGRATION...

I'M SORRY SIR OR MADAM, YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE BEHIND THIS ENORMOUS STACK OF MONEY, YOUR PERSONAL AND BUSINESS RECORDS, ALL



THESE VIDEOS AND, OH YES, THESE RECIPES TOO.

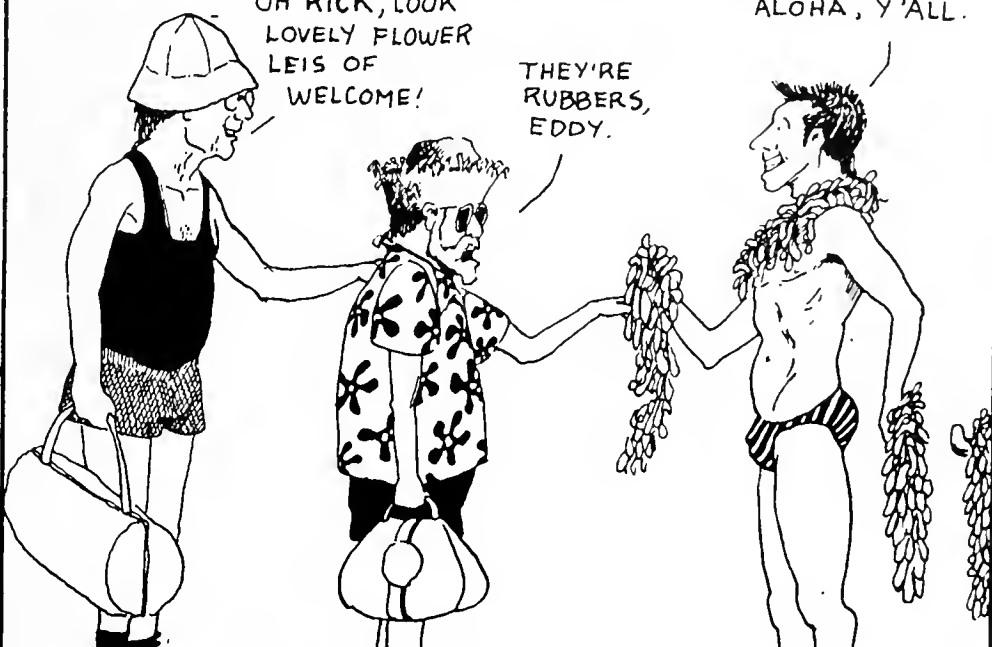
NOT THE RECIPES!

AT IMMIGRATION...

OH RICK, LOOK LOVELY FLOWER LEIS OF WELCOME!

THEY'RE RUBBERS, EDDY.

HOWDY 'N ALOHA, Y'ALL.



WHY IS IT WE CAN SUCCESSFULLY CONTROL AIDS, BECOME THE MOST PROSPEROUS OF CARIBBEAN NATIONS, REVITALIZE NATO, BECOME A MODEL OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND DEMOCRACY AND BE UNABLE TO DECIDE ON THE COLOUR OF OUR STATIONERY?



WELL, I DO LIKE THE RAISED LETTERING...

BORINNG!

SEVERAL YEARS LATER...

SIR! CUBA AND TRINIDAD ARE OURS. WE CAN CONFIDENTLY CLAIM THE ENTIRE CARIBBEAN!

VERY GOOD, ALPHONSE. NOW SHOW US YOUR BOTTOM.



OH YOU WICKED, WICKED BOYS AND GIRLS. YOU TOOK THE BEST, THE MOST TALENTED, THE SKILLED AND THE CLEVER AND LEFT THE BIGOTED, IGNORANT AND POORLY DRESSED... AND NOW I'M MELTING, MELTING...



AND THERE IS A HALCYON MOMENT OF PERFECT CALM...

(© HALLMARK CARDS)



ON AN OTHERWISE TURBULENT SEA...



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☐ I do not wish to receive selected mailings from groups interested in reaching gay people.

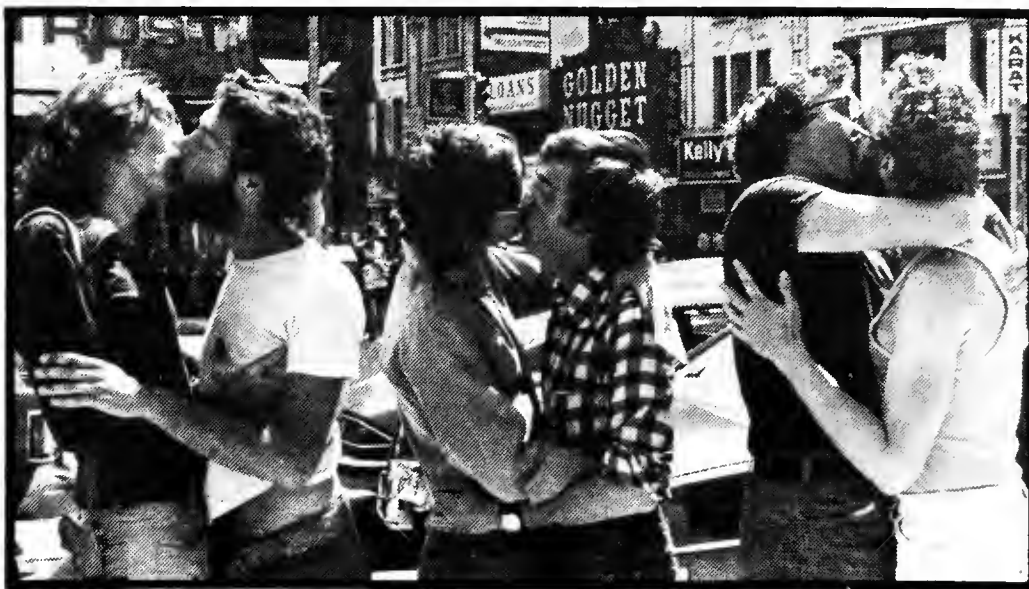
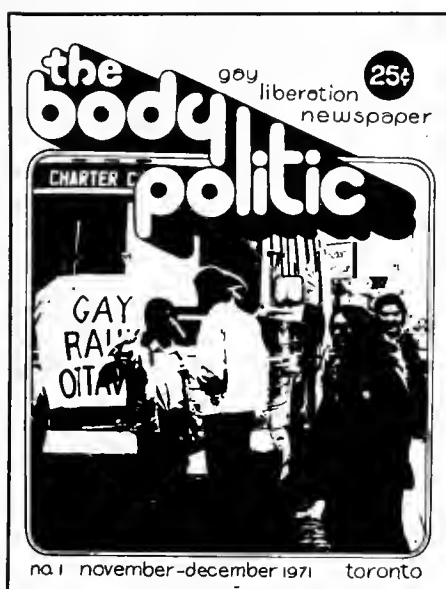
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THE TIME OF OUR LIVES

TIM MCCASKELL PICKS THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 15 YEARS OF VISIBILITY — OF WINS & LOSSES, TEARS & CELEBRATIONS.



Issue number 1 of *The Body Politic* — available everywhere we could persuade someone to carry it. An image picked at random from *The Body Politic* photo files — a kiss-in at the corner of Yonge and Bloor streets in Toronto in 1976. Both underline a strategic preoccupation of a people whose lives had once been lived in shadow — visibility.

1971

A year and a half after gay customers drove raiding police out of New York's Stonewall Inn, the ripples of gay liberation began to be felt in Canada. This year saw the formation of the Community Homophile Association in Toronto, the Front de libération homosexuel in Montreal, The Gay Alliance Toward Equality in Vancouver, Gays of Ottawa, and the Gay Students Alliance in Saskatoon. The first public gay demonstration in Canada assembled on Parliament Hill August 28 and the first issue of *The Body Politic* hit the streets in Toronto November 1.

Pierre Trudeau married Margaret, the first Mariposa Folk Festival was held on Toronto Island and Jesus Christ Superstar was edging the Woodstock soundtrack off the charts. Straight people cried like crazy over *Love Story* while the rest of us were watching *Death in Venice*. And, on TV, *All in the Family* made its debut.

1972

Much early gay movement theorizing saw our liberation as one facet of a broader struggle. A visible gay contingent joined an Ottawa demonstration protesting American aggression in Vietnam and the April 15 visit of US President Nixon to Canada.

The neo-fascist Western Guard disrupted a forum entitled *Homosexuality: Myth and Reality* at Toronto's St Lawrence Centre Town Hall in May.

New organizations continued popping up all over the country. Gays for Equality in Winnipeg, Gay Alliance Toward Equality in Edmonton, Gay McGill in Montreal and a lesbian-run feminist magazine called *The Other Woman* in Toronto. We protested the omission of sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code for the first time June 29 and celebrated Toronto's first Gay Pride Week in August.

In the US, five men were arrested in connection with a break-in at Democratic Party headquarters in the Watergate Inn. Everyone trekked off to see *The Godfather* and a song called *American Pie* introduced nostalgia to a whole generation.

1973

This was the year that began the battle of the dailies. Newspapers in Toronto, Windsor and Vancouver refused to accept ads from the new gay political organizations and soon found themselves enmeshed in picket lines and complaints to local press councils. The case against the Vancouver Sun brought by the Gay Alliance Toward Equality would eventually reach the Supreme Court of Canada.

In October, the first pan-Canadian conference of gay organizations was held in Quebec City. Toronto banned discrimination in municipal hiring on the basis of sexual orientation — the first such legislation in Canada. *Long Time Coming*, our first openly lesbian journal, was published in Montreal. For the boys, Toronto's Club Baths opened its doors to become the country's first gay-operated bathhouse. And in the US the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from the list of mental disorders. We were no longer crazy.

Poor Dick Nixon was fighting for his political life as the Watergate scandal continued to unravel; *Last Tango in Paris* made butter racy and *The Exorcist* gave us "Your mother sucks cocks in hell." On the other hand, TV introduced us to the Waltons.

1974

Montreal saw its first lesbian conference, and Quebec gays appeared before the justice committee of the national assembly to demand the inclusion of sexual orientation in the proposed human rights charter. The charter was finally adopted in July — but without sexual orientation.

Gay liberation reached Newfoundland and New Brunswick with the organization of the Community Homophile Association of Newfoundland and Gay Friends of Fredericton. There was a first prairie conference of gay organizations in Saskatoon, and a second national gay conference in Winnipeg. But in Toronto the reaction to three years of gay lib was gathering. Fundamentalist minister Ken Campbell organized the Halton Renaissance Committee, forerunner of the anti-gay organization Renaissance Canada. Campbell was ticked off because members of the Hamilton/McMaster Homophile Association had spoken to his daughter's high-school class.

Nixon was the one and resigned and (coincidence, we're sure) disaster pix packed 'em in — *Earthquake*, *Airport* and *Towering Inferno*. In Germany, a new director named Rainer Werner Fassbinder was drawing international attention with a film called *Ali: Fear Eats the Soul*.



<1.

1. **Winnipeg 1977.** Lesbians protest CBC's policy on public service announcements. 2. **Toronto 1972.** Our first-ever gay pride march winds down University Avenue. 3. **Ottawa 1977.** Fired racing steward John Damien, left, talks with Gordon Fairweather, chairman of the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

2.✓

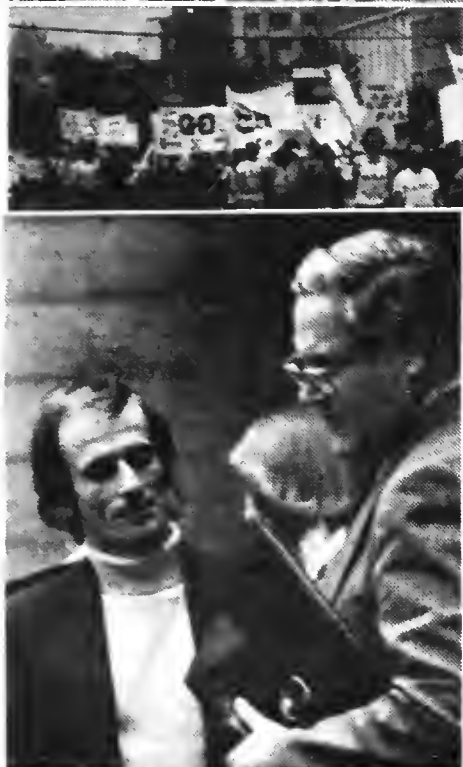
5. > Body Politic ^{50c}



Men loving boys loving men <7.



8.✓



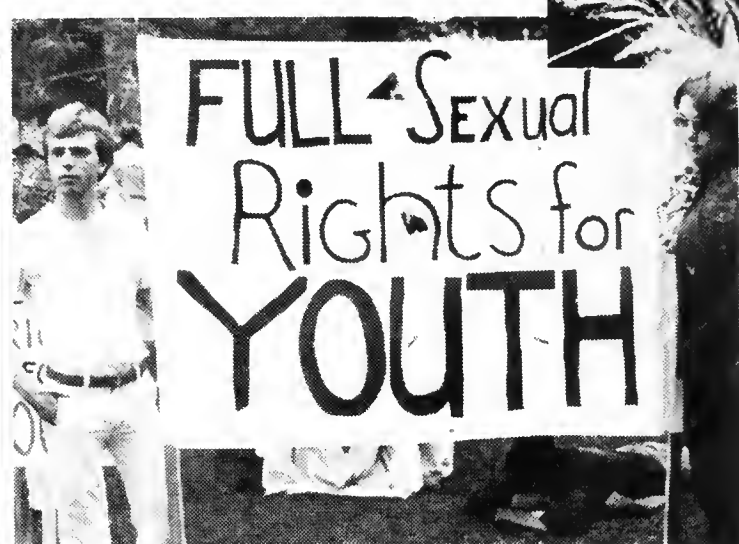
▲3.



4. **Toronto 1975.** Publication of this Harold Hedd cartoon earned us a visit from Metro police. ▲4.



▲6.



9.

5. **Saskatoon 1975.** Cover boy for our December issue was Doug Wilson, prevented from teaching because of his sexual orientation. 6. **Toronto 1977.** The Coalition to Stop Anita Bryant burned the lady in effigy. 7. **Toronto 1977.** Publication of this article in our December issue provoked a police raid December 30. 8. **San Francisco 1978.** City supervisor Harvey Milk was gunned down in city hall November 27, along with Mayor George Moscone. 9. **Toronto 1978.** Gay Youth Toronto hosted the first bi-national (Quebec and Canada. We were very correct) youth conference.

1975

We were now in the public eye. But times were changing fast. Sixties radicalism melted away as the economy began to stall. The guardians of public morality saw their way free to reassert some old time values. Montreal police raided Sauna Aquarius in February, arresting 36 men, and hit seven gay and lesbian bars in October. In March, Ottawa police arrested 18 gay men, the owner and customers of a dating service, and released their names to the press as part of a "homosexual vice ring." One man, Warren Zufelt, committed suicide. In Toronto, the Ontario Racing Commission fired racing steward John Damien "because he's a homosexual," and issue 18 of TBP was ordered off the stands by Metro cops because of a cartoon showing cocksucking. In Saskatoon, Doug Wilson, a young graduate student in education at the University of Saskatchewan, was prevented from taking a practice-teaching position because of his gay movement activities.

Gay people responded with protests, pickets and demonstrations. The Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario was formed in that province. And when the federal government sent a parliamentary committee across the country to hold public hearings on immigration issues, lesbians and gay men sent briefs demanding the removal of anti-gay provisions in the Immigration Act.

Hair was getting shorter. Everyone got out of the water because of Jaws and flocked to Monty Python and the Holy Grail. Bruce Springsteen's bum emerged as a major star and discoing till dawn became the reason for having weekends.

1976

Canada hosted the Olympics and Montreal police used that excuse to "clean up" their city — by raiding gay bars and baths. A huge demonstration June 19 was organized by the Comité Homosexuel Anti-repression, and five days later gay activist Stuart Russell and four others were fired from their jobs with the Olympic organizing committee — for their political activity and their sexual orientation.

Lesbians organized a national conference in October in Ottawa, and the Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT) was set up in November.

In Ottawa, city council passed a motion April 5 to prohibit discrimination in municipal hiring on the basis of sexual orientation — the second city to do so.

In Britain, Jeremy Thorpe resigned as leader of the Liberal Party in one of those deliciously sticky British homosexual scandals. Over here, tacky became institutionalized on Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman. After Mary, we trooped off to the cinema to see Swept Away, All the President's Men, Taxi Driver and King Kong.

1977

The Canadian Armed Forces purged nine lesbians in April, and in Ottawa Private Barbara Thornborrow went public before she too was discharged as a "sexual deviate who is not advantageously employable." Yet a Gallup poll showed that 52 percent of Canadians believed gay people should be protected against discrimination under the new Canadian Human Rights Act.

In Quebec, gay organizations had just finished their first national conference when Montreal police raided the Truxx bar, arresting 146 men on charges of being found-ins in a common bawdyhouse. The next night, October 23, 2,000 demonstrators blocked downtown intersections in protest. Two months later, the national assembly quietly added sexual orientation to the provincial human rights code — the first provincial jurisdiction to do so.

In Toronto, the sexual assault and murder of a 12-year-old shoeshine boy provoked a vicious homophobic reaction, calls for return of the death penalty and more police power. Three months later, issue 39 of The Body Politic included a piece called Men Loving Boys Loving Men, which attempted to counter widespread perceptions that pedophiles were child murderers. Police raided TBP's offices December 30, seizing 12 packing crates of material and subscription lists as "evidence."

Maggie left Pierre. A government investigation revealed the RCMP had been doing illegal things for just years. We relieved our anxieties by cheering Luke Skywalker in Star Wars and finding the most darling little aliens in Close Encounters — but became anxious again after watching Looking for Mr Goodbar.

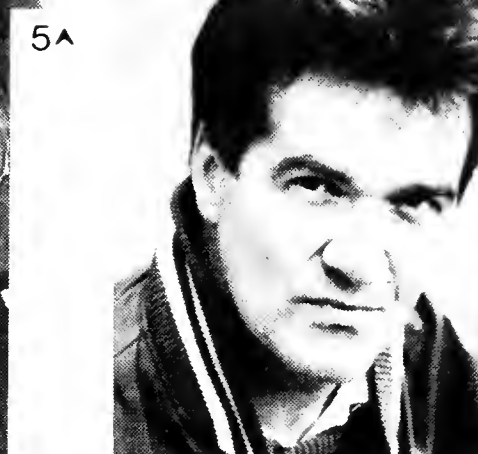
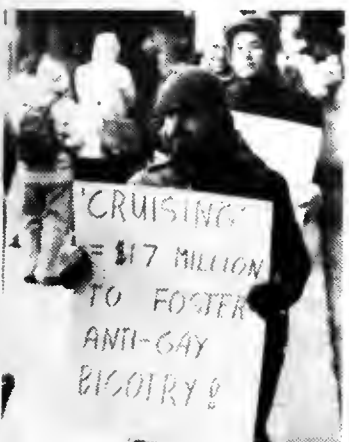
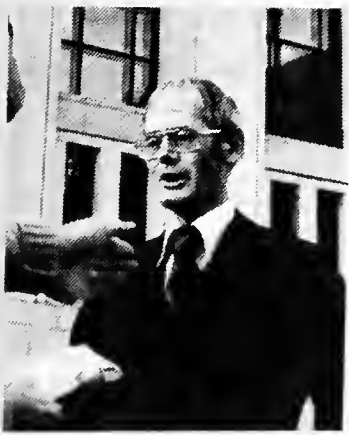
1978

The year opened with charges against TBP for possession of obscene material for distribution and for use of the mails for transmitting indecent, immoral or scurrilous material. Anita Bryant arrived in town nine days later at the invitation of Ken Campbell and Renaissance Canada. She was met by hundreds of demonstrators in Toronto, and by hundreds more as she travelled to Edmonton, Winnipeg, Moosejaw and London.

But in spite of the pressure, 1978 was a year of growth. The old all-purpose gay organizations were giving way to a whole range of fast-growing special interest groups. In Toronto, the Lambda Business Council was formed and the Lesbian Mother's Defense Fund was launched by Wages Due Lesbians. The Metropolitan Community Church held its second annual Canadian conference and gay youth organized their first bi-national conference. Toronto's Queens Park was filled with frolicking dykes and faggots for Gay Days and, in the first legislative victory in years, the new immigration act did remove prohibitions against gay people entering the country.

In the US the Bryant steamroller was stopped in its tracks as California voters rejected a referendum proposition calling for the firing of both gay and pro-gay teachers — but the end of the year brought bad news again. Gay San Francisco supervisor Harvey Milk and pro-gay mayor George Moscone were assassinated November 27. In Toronto the cops raided the Barracks steam bath, charging 28 men as found-ins or keepers.

We flocked to gyms, built up our hearts, lungs and, most important, tits. The Jonestown mass suicides made Kool-Aid popular and punk rock segued into New Wave. The hit movie Pretty Baby was *not* seen in Ontario (thank you, Film Review Board), but Animal House was.



1. Ottawa 1979. Maurice Flood of Vancouver's Gay Alliance Toward Equality before the Supreme Court of Canada. The organization's attempt to force the Vancouver Sun to print a small classified ad ended here. The Supreme Court said the daily had a right to refuse. **2. Toronto 1980.** Braving a freezing February night, some gay men protested the opening of the gay-themed splatter movie, *Cruising*. **3. Toronto 1980.** Aldermanic hopeful George Hislop in a sea of signs. Hislop came close, but lost his bid to become the city's first openly gay elected official. **4. Toronto 1981.** The photograph that caused a media sensation. February 20 — the largest gay demonstration in Canadian history. But four of the men carrying the banner were

agents provocateurs from the Toronto police — and their exposure caused red faces right up the police hierarchy. **5. Toronto 1979.** January 3, the second day of The Body Politic trial. Defendants Ken Popert (left), Gerald Hannon and Ed Jackson at the rally at which Mayor John Sewell also spoke — and sparked days of media hubbub. **6. Vancouver 1982.** Youth worker Rob Joyce was fired on unsubstantiated charges of sexual abuse of a minor — and began the long fight to clear his name. **7. And just for fun.** Robert Preston and Julie Andrews in the frothy cross-dressing farce, *Victor/Victoria*.

1979

The TBP trial was national news and Toronto mayor John Sewell sparked a media uproar by defending the paper in a public meeting. A month later the paper was found not guilty. But victory was short-lived: Ontario attorney general Roy McMurtry appealed the verdict.

In Toronto, tension between police and minority communities continued, with increasing evidence of police racism and homophobia. Teacher Don Franco went public after police informed his school board that he had been arrested in the Barracks raid — but the police got their revenge for the bad press they got on that. They charged Franco with keeping a common bawdyhouse — in his own home. (You see, he was taking men there to have sex. Tsk.)

Lesbians travelling to the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival were harassed and turned back by US immigration officials and in Ontario the province refused to register a gay group home, Tri-Aid.

But even '79 has its bright side. The Ontario Federation of Labour called on the government to extend protection against discrimination to lesbians and gay men, and a Quebec superior court judge ruled that the Montreal Catholic school commission had no grounds to refuse to rent space to the Association des droits des gais du Québec — the first legal victory for gays under the amended Quebec human rights charter.

The Tories captured the federal government, but Joe Clarke was soon laughed out of office. The Vietnam war became big box office with *The Deer Hunter* and *Apocalypse Now*; the China Syndrome got us all fired up about melt-down — and Three Mile Island almost illustrated the thesis.

1980

More than a thousand lesbians and gay men celebrated the second annual Gairilla Week in Montreal, and in Toronto, a new Gay Community Appeal made plans for the first United Way-type fundraising drive for the gay community. While our communities were bursting with new initiatives, the old Stonewall generation of organizations was being laid to rest. Vancouver's Gay Alliance Toward Equality announced its dissolution June 24, and the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Rights Coalition disbanded July 1.

In municipal elections, pro-gay Michael Harcourt won the mayoralty race in Vancouver, but in Toronto both mayor John Sewell and aldermanic candidate George Hislop were defeated.

With a provincial election in the wind, the Conservative government in Ontario introduced amendments to the human rights code. Sexual orientation was not included. Hmmm. The provincial New Democratic Party committed its great betrayal. After years of lip-service to a commitment to fight for pro-gay legislation, leader Michael Cassidy says "the issue is not a priority at this time," and refuses to move an amendment.

Bonzo's buddy became president of the United States, Trudeau returned with a majority, Russia invaded Afghanistan and the US boycotted the Moscow Olympics. The movie *Cruising* got us all fired up about its portrayal of gay guys in bars and some of us protested and all of us went to see it.

1981

Election time in Ontario — and law-and-order time too. Toronto police arrested more than 300 men in simultaneous raids on four bathhouses February 5. Three thousand angry demonstrators blocked downtown streets the next night in the first of many demonstrations against police misconduct and the bawdyhouse laws. The Right to Privacy Committee began the task of raising money for the defence of those arrested. Throughout the year there were more raids in Toronto, and police in Edmonton raided the Pisces Spa, arresting 60 men.

Gay Pride Week in Montreal drew a record 15,000 people — and in Vancouver Mayor Harcourt proclaimed Gay Unity Week. The first lesbian pride march was held in Toronto, and five protestors handcuffed themselves to the railings of the public gallery in the Ontario legislature to protest the defeat of an amendment to add sexual orientation to the human rights code.

The Year of Poor Marksmanship — both Reagan and the Pope were only wounded — but not for Di, who set her sights on the future king of England, and got him. The Canadian constitutional debates dragged on — and when even *that* got dull, we settled in to watch *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Reds*, *Chariots of Fire* and sequels to both *Superman* and *Cage aux Folles*.

1982

Toronto police continued to hit at our community. Glad Day Books was raided April 21, and employee Kevin Orr was charged with possession of obscene material. The Body Politic received a visit from the boys in blue May 7. An article on fisting etiquette, entitled *Lust With a Very Proper Stranger*, prompted charges for publishing obscene material.

We were winning in the courts, however. This magazine was found not guilty on the fisting article, and acquitted once again on the *Men Loving Boys Loving Men* case. That one, however, just refused to die and Attorney General Roy McMurtry appealed — declaring, as we cartooned at the time, that he would stop appealing the moment he found a judge who would convict. As the last of the bath raids cases crawled through the courts, community-financed lawyers were scoring an impressive 85 per cent acquittal rate.

In Vancouver, youth worker Rob Joyce was fired on unsubstantiated charges of sexual abuse of a minor — and began the long fight to clear his name. That city also passed the strongest gay rights bylaw in Canada. At the federal level, a right-wing letter campaign killed amendments to the Criminal Code which would have legalized buggery, bestiality and sex among more than two consenting adults.

Canadian athletes joined lesbians and gay men from around the world for the first Gay Games in San Francisco — but increasingly our attention was being drawn to a mysterious new disease which at first earned the acronym GRID: Gay Related Immune Deficiency. We would soon know it as AIDS.

Canada got a constitution, and celebrated with a 77-cent (US) dollar. Herpes replaced dandruff as social unmentionable and John Belushi ODed. Everyone watched *Brideshead Revisited*, and then went out and bought the clothes. And Julie Andrews played a girl playing a boy playing a girl in *Victor/Victoria* (but Lesley Ann Warren stole the show).



1. Toronto 1983. Police raid the Back Door Gym, the last whimper of "Operation Soap," police code name for the anti-gay assaults that began with the February 5, 1981 bath raids. **2. Montreal 1984.** Thousands jam the streets to protest a police raid of the popular gay bar, Buds, the night before. **3. Toronto 1983.** Peter Evans of Ottawa, one of the first Canadians with AIDS to go public, at a press conference held by the AIDS Committee of Toronto. **4. Ottawa 1986.** Sporting T-shirts reading "Play safe/jouez sur," members of the Ottawa AIDS Committee hit the town on a condom blitz. **5. Toronto 1986.** Team sports draw thousands onto the playing fields and bowling alleys in the Eighties — here, two women on the lesbian Pink Turf Soccer League kick out for the goal net.



1983

This was the year of the anti-porn crusade in Canada. Red Hot Video in Vancouver was firebombed, and a number of Canadian cities passed bylaws restricting display of erotic materials in corner stores. Glad Day Books was convicted March 4 of selling obscene material.

In Toronto, relations with the police were becoming "normalized." There was only one bath raid, followed by the usual angry demonstration. However, the focus of police action moved to the hinterland. In the small Ontario town of Orillia, 30 men were charged with gross indecency after the cops videotaped the goings-on in the local opera house washroom.

After six years of legal battles, TBP's two acquittals in the Men Loving Boys Loving Men case were allowed to stand — the appeal courts refused to allow any more Crown appeals. The Gay Community Appeal in Toronto produced the first Fruit Cocktail — a gay review — and drew sell-out crowds.

In British Columbia, 80,000 workers went on strike against cuts in public services and the dismantling of the province's human rights commission. Gay people were vocal supporters and organizers in the Solidarity Coalition.

Health became the big issue for gay men as AIDS began to hit our friends and lovers. What was safe sex? The Red Cross began to worry about safe blood. A group called Positive Parents called for the closing of gay bars and baths.

The cause of AIDS was still unknown, and the debate raged between those who felt it was the result of promiscuity and those who claimed there must be a single cause, probably a virus. In April, concerned community activists set up the AIDS Committee of Toronto.

Tennessee Williams died, Michael Jackson released *Thriller* and we all went to see *Flashdance*, *Silkwood*, *Terms of Endearment*, *Wargames* and *The Right Stuff*.

1984

French and American scientists identified a virus that, probably in conjunction with other factors, was the cause of AIDS, and a test was developed to weed out contaminated blood in blood banks. But the test was wreathed in controversy — was it a test for AIDS? Or just for the antibodies? Would test results remain confidential?

The United Church of Canada held its debate on homosexuality and decided not to accept a recommendation that sexual orientation be no bar to ordination. And the Roman Catholic church showed its feelings by expelling two students and three instructors from Toronto's St Augustine's Seminary — for theological and sexual deviations.

In Montreal, police raided the popular gay bar Buds in the early morning of June 2 and arrested 188 men. Next night, more than a thousand people took to the streets in protest. This year also saw the beginning of full-scale censorship by Canada Customs. Officers ripped pages from magazines, and required the obliteration and/or removal of both pictures and text.

But there were victories. The Toronto Women's Bookstore re-opened less than a year after it was destroyed by a firebomb intended for the Morgentaler abortion clinic. In Vancouver, the Ministry of Human Resources had to admit defeat and remove Rob Joyce's name from its Child Abuse Registry. Voters put open lesbian Sue Harris on the Parks Board in Vancouver, and in Ontario a supreme court judge struck down part of the bawdyhouse laws after a challenge by the Right to Privacy Committee. The RCMP ended its long-standing surveillance of gay men and lesbians (or said it did), and claimed it had destroyed all files opened "solely on the basis of an individual's sexual orientation." Once more in the courts — the Ontario Court of Appeals quashed the obscenity conviction against Toronto's Glad Day Books.

Mulroney became Prime Minister of Canada, Reagan was re-elected and the Pope came to Canada. You got farm movies (*Places in the Heart*, *Country*, *The River*), you got *Ghostbusters* and you got Springsteen's bum again (*Born in the USA*). And *Another Country* became the gay film of the year.

1985

Across the country, anti-gay forces were still on a roll. Police kept up their surveillance of washrooms in small Ontario towns and arrested men in Guelph and St Catharines. One man charged in St Catharines committed suicide by dousing himself with gasoline and setting himself on fire. Although a legal challenge to the Customs and Tariff Act struck down the provisions that stopped so much gay material from entering the country, an interim law was quickly passed restoring censorship powers. In Manitoba, and NDP government turned its back on past promises and the recommendation of its own Human Rights Commission and failed to add sexual orientation to the provincial human rights code.

Rock Hudson's death made AIDS a household word, and announcements of a French cure for the disease raised hopes that were soon dashed. Safe sex became a major topic of conversation. The first steps toward setting up a national AIDS coalition were taken at a conference in Montreal. The Red Cross began testing all new blood donations for the AIDS virus.

There was good news too. Ontario's Tories were defeated after an eternity in office. The International Gay Association held a bang-up annual conference in Toronto in July, and the new Charter of Rights held out the promise of legal protection from discrimination for gay people across the country. A Gallup poll showed that 70 percent of Canadians now believed that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation should be illegal, and in Ontario a coalition of artists and other anti-censorship forces took the Ontario Film Review Board to court and set up a week of uncensored screenings across the province.

Famine in Africa brought us *Live Aid*, *We are the World*, *Tears are Not Enough* and *Do They Know It's Christmas*. The Toronto Blue Jays, for the three homosexuals and seven lesbians who cared, almost made it to the World Series. We watched Prizzi's Honour, *Kiss of the Spider Woman* and *Purple Rose of Cairo*. We complained about *Rambo* (but some of us sneaked off to see his muscles).

1986

Justice Minister John Crosby told the House of Commons that his government "would take whatever measures were necessary to ensure that sexual orientation is a prohibited ground of discrimination in relation to all areas of federal jurisdiction." Then the bad news — the Tories introduced anti-pornography legislation that promised a nightmare scenario for publishers generally and gay publishers in particular.

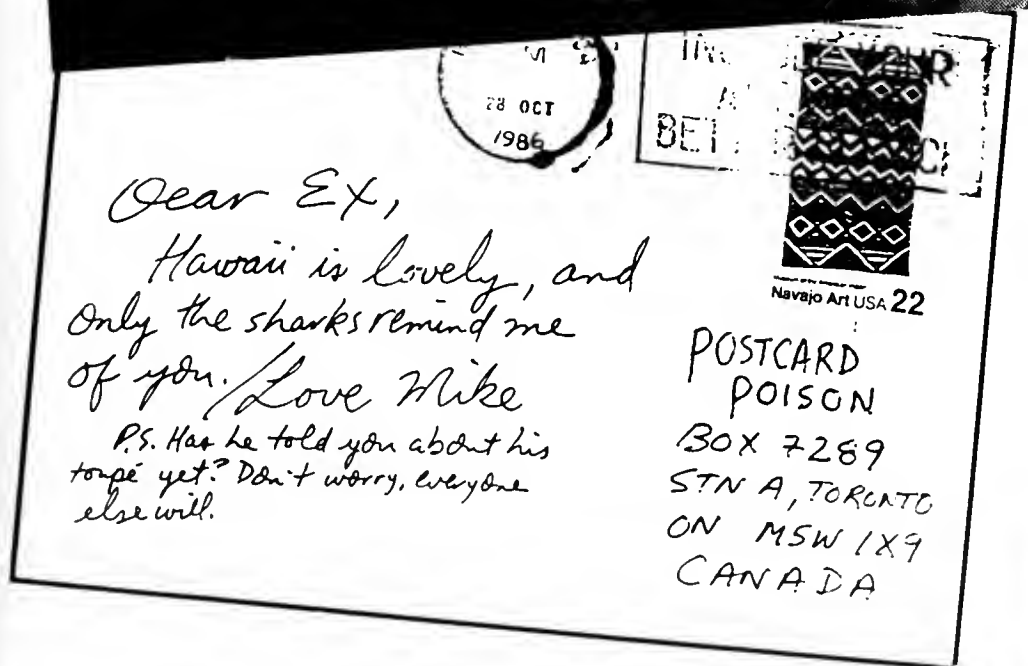
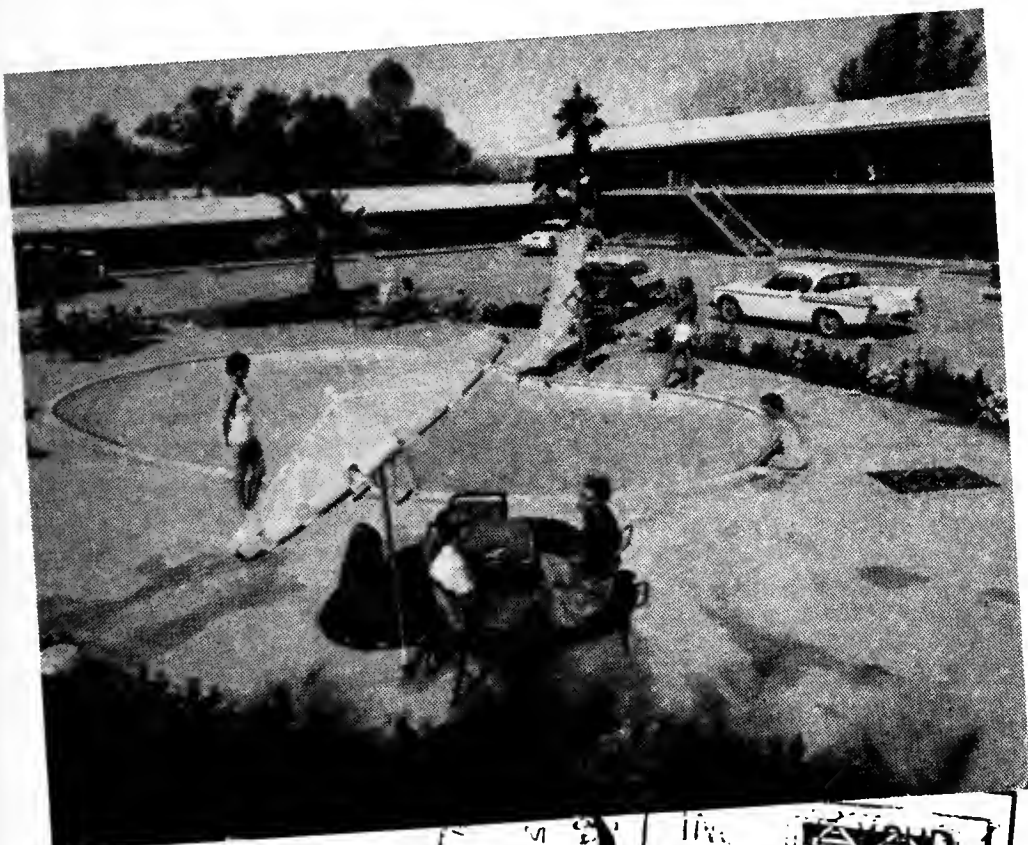
In Vancouver, the lovers of many municipal employees became eligible for medical coverage previously available only to spouses of the opposite sex. The NDP government in the Yukon introduced and then withdrew a bill that would have extended human rights protection to lesbians and gay men in the territory.

People with AIDS in Vancouver began organizing to demand the release of experimental drugs, and the government announced that a viral laboratory necessary to monitor the effect of such drugs would be established. A Vancouver study revealed that oral sex was unlikely to spread AIDS, and the federal government banned poppers as a health hazard. AZT, the first really promising drug for some AIDS patients, was released in the US and the government promised that it would be available in Canada by the end of the year.

The Body Politic turned 15 years old at the end of the year and, after a good 14 years of agitation and pickets and briefs and god knows what else, the government in Ontario passed Bill 7 — adding sexual orientation to the Ontario Human Rights Code, and making official what all of us had been saying for the last decade and a half: our choice of who to love shouldn't put our jobs at risk. ●



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SMALL PRESS

SHARED GROUND

Joy Parks ●

"I'd say I did it all for love"

I'm not good at good-byes, but this one is a necessary evil. At the present, TBP is forced to undergo a number of changes and one of those changes is the demise of this column. So to say good-bye, I want to review the last five years that have gone into the making of *Shared Ground*.

My first contact with TBP remains fresh in my mind — receiving a call from then-features editor Rick Bébout and spending the weekend summoning the courage to attend a meeting. Decked out in a pink angora sweater and pearls (after all, I was meeting an editor and, at this point in my life, knew nothing of dyke chic!), I made my way to the dilapidated building on Duncan Street, up the five double flights of creaking steps ("Don't use the elevator," Rick had cautioned, "it sticks") and returned with a pile of review books.

Since then so many elements of lesbian literature have changed. When I first began to review small press books back in 1978, lesbian works were rare. By 1981 and the birth of *Shared Ground*, I could count on three, maybe four, presses. Now there are dozens, each with its particular slant or special interest. We have moved far from the point where a book could garner a good review by virtue of the inclusion of a lesbian/gay character, and the network of lesbian presses, journals and newsletters has grown large and varied. The past five years have seen the explosive creation of publications dealing with lesbian sexuality/erotica, making us deal with repressed issues of lust and power. Our literature has overflowed into all genres, all subjects. And despite the presses and publications which have fallen by the wayside, the number that remain is phenomenal. It has been thrilling to be a part of this renaissance of lesbian culture.

Looking back, I'd say I did it all for love. Love of course, for both the small press and lesbian literature, but I enjoyed also, the respect and interest of others in what I was doing. "I've read your column" has come to be one of the sweetest phrases to

my ears. In the past five years, the number of readers who have encouraged me with comments is large, but there are a few special people I want to mention: Barbara Grier for unwittingly being a role model with her *Lesbiana* column in the pioneering lesbian publication *The Ludder*, Lee Lynch and Tee Corrine for their wonderful friendship and guidance, Jan Clausen for putting a line from one of my reviews in the *Haul Press Catalogue* — on the same page as a quote from Audre Locke. It made me feel famous for weeks. To Jane Rule for the gentle slaps on the wrist for writing "bad" criticism and for being a great sounding board and actually making me feel like a colleague in our work on the paper. Also my editors (six in all), particularly John Allec, who never failed to find even the most obscure work I requested, and Rick Bébout, for his wonderful friendship, and for taking a chance on me.

Just a few more comments before I go. Throughout my years with TBP, many people have asked me why I chose to work with a publication so often mistaken for a "gay men's paper." Truth is, I've never stopped wondering why TBP asked me. The level of intellectual company I've kept in these pages thrills me to this very day. In the past 10 years I've written for many lesbian/feminist journals and I don't feel compelled in the least to rationalize the time I've spent with TBP. In fact, I'm very proud of my work with *Shared Ground*. TBP rescued me from the depths of an arrogance that only a 21-year-old can possess and forced me to be a better, more disciplined writer. I have no regrets. While this may be too banal for words, I felt comfortable with TBP and while I may not have always agreed with the direction in which the paper was moving, there was never a time in which I felt anything less than a respected and valued member of the publication. Now that I'm leaving these pages, I see just how much I'll be taking with me.

So what's ahead? For TBP, I hope changes that will allow it to continue to be, in one form or another, the "newsmagazine of gay liberation in Canada." For me (and Micki, who wants her name in print one last time!), a possible move back to Toronto next summer, some articles for other publications and a chance to complete my own book of poetry. Maybe even another column. Somewhere. But *Shared Ground* was my first, my baby, my window into the world of lesbian writing. I hope that I've been able to pull back the shade and allow each of you a glimpse out that window. It's been a terrific five years. Farewell. ●



A toast to small press: Joy Parks drinks to five years of *Shared Ground*.

W

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TBP

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\$10.00	\$10.40	\$10.80	\$11.20	\$11.60	\$12.00
\$12.40	\$12.80	\$13.20	\$13.60	\$14.00	\$14.40
\$14.80	\$15.20	\$15.60	\$16.00	\$16.40	\$16.80
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ORGANIZATIONS seeking volunteers can find them in The Body Politic classifieds. Advertise for volunteer help and get a 50% discount off our regular reasonable rates.

NEW INTERNATIONAL CONTACT/FRIENDSHIP group for men specifically into beards, beardedness. Write Box 85338, Seattle WA, USA.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
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• HALIFAX •

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GAY WOMAN WHO WOULD LIKE to have a child wanted by professional gay man in his thirties. All races welcome. I'm clean, responsible, considered good-looking; serious replies only. Drawer G434.

IN THE SPRING, I hope to be coming to Toronto and would like to make some contacts before coming. I hope to be able to find a place to stay, perhaps on an exchange basis. Please write to me and tell me about yourself and your interests. Maggie Clark, 56 Sidney Rd, Beckenham, Kent, ENGLAND.

FRIENDS MALE

• INTERNATIONAL •

SPANISH MALE SEEKS new friends and contacts in Canada. Please write to me and tell me about yourself. Alan Blundell, Edificio Mediterraneo 11-8, Paseo Maritimo, Marbella, Málaga, SPAIN.

STUDENT, 20, 5'6" 128 lbs, seeks pen friends from North America. Currently, I am working but hope to continue my studies. Enrique Montes Hilado, 19 Rizal Extension, Bacolod City, Neg. Occidental, PHILIPPINES.

AUSTRALIAN MALE, 42, 5'11" 156 lbs, active, dominant, seeks younger submissive guys, any nationality, into B/D, W/S, F/F, CBT, T/T, dildos, shaving and more. For correspondence, initially, with meeting possible at later date. Photo with reply, please. Respond now to: Allan, Box 190, Milson's Point, NSW 2061 AUSTRALIA.

GWM, CANADOPHILE, 31, 6' 190 lbs, brown beard, seeks friends. Prefer mature, husky/heavysset, beard or moustache, quiet. Francophones aussi. Box 2094, Lawrence, Kansas USA 66045.

PENPALS/VISITORS. Professional, 38, attractive, 5'9" 145 lbs, seeks correspondence with younger males anywhere. Wriet to Garlen, Box 1271, Stn F, Toronto ON M4Y 2V8.

SEEKING GAY CORRESPONDENTS. Male student, 21, interested in community work, majoring in Social Administration, enjoys music, travelling, long discussions, interesting people, good food and sports. I'm outgoing and generally happy. Hoping to write with other gay people between 18 and 27. Duncan Saunders, 25 Pine Road, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO5 1LH. GREAT BRITAIN.

BRITISH GAY MALE, WILLING to correspond with sincere, genuine gay guys over 30. My interests include reading, music and meeting people from other countries. I am over 50 but still have young ideas. Please write to Alfred Woodward, 1 Paget Terrace, Penarth, S Glamorgan, WALES.

GWM, SLIM, BLOND/BLUE, country boy, seeking stern teacher/guide. I'm attractive, a little shy but playful. I want an older, affectionate man that cares enough to discipline me and with patience enough to teach me about love and life. Together we will explore the perimeters of my sexuality. I'm willing and wanting to relocate. Will answer all. Please write to KH, Box 5183, Vanleave MO USA 39564.

GAY MALE, 33, active/passive, would like to correspond with Canadian guys. Hope to be able to come to Canada. Will answer all letters. Tell me about yourself and your country. Andrew Hoszowski, Ul Warszawska 15 6-44 100 Gliwice, POLAND.

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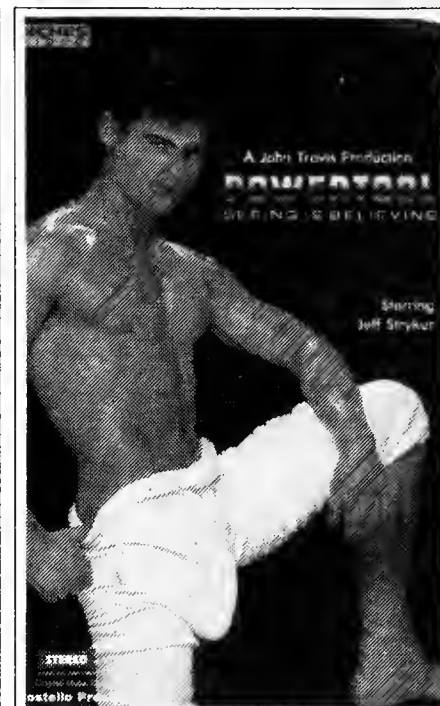
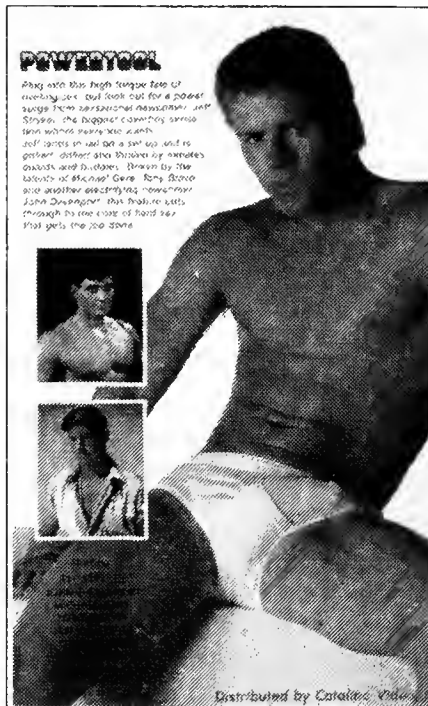
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SOUTH AFRICAN GAY MALE, 21, looking for pen pals about the same age. I am interested in music, art, books, photography, tennis and hockey. Would like to correspond with people from any race group. Please write to 81207284 BG, Pte PS Meinhold, E Company, Platoon 20, Basic Training Branch, Personnel Service School, Private Bag X1024, Voortrkharhoogte, 0143 SOUTH AFRICA. (PS. I am in the army for two years as it is compulsory for all males here.)

BELGIAN GAY MALE, 24, looking for Canadian friends. I work as an administration manager and am interested in fitness, writing, travelling, changing ideas and nature. I speak Dutch, but I write in English, French and German. If you are interested, please write Alain Haegens, Brielstraat 23, 9280 Overmoe Donk, BELGIUM.

IRELAND CALLING. Warm, sincere, friendly guy, late 30s, restoring historic castle in southern Ireland. Interested in art, antiques, people, travel and healthy living. Seeks genuine friends anywhere. Photo appreciated. Kieran Hefernan, Garryduff, Youghal, Co Cork, IRELAND.

CUBAN GUY, 24, brown eyes, black hair, geology student. I would like to find out more about gay life in Canada and abroad. In my country, gay magazines and organizations are prohibited, so I often find myself isolated. I can speak Spanish, English and German. Please write Mario Lorenzo Fonseca, Apartado 102, Z Postal Habana I, CUBA.

FILLIPINO MALE, 20, loves basketball and swimming, looking for understanding and sincere friends in Canada. Will be relocating to Canada in 1987. Please reply to Joselito G Villarias, 154 H, Jalandon St, Purok Pilit, Bacalod City 6001, PHILLIPINES.

• C A N A D A •

AUSTRALIAN, 20s, TRAVELLING
ACROSS CANADA MARCH '87. Would like to meet guys, under 30, into active sports: swimming, cycling, bushwalking. Write January or February to Box 539, North Adelaide, South Australia 5006.

DISCIPLINE
SCOTSMAN WITH ACTIVE INTEREST in traditional discipline wishes to correspond with Canadian with similar interests for exchange of experiences. Would also like to acquire Canadian school strap, well used if possible. Drawer G436.

EXPO AND OLYMPICS 1988
TRAVELLING TO FAR EAST/SOUTHEAST Asia beginning October 1987. I am 23 and seek companion for part or all of journey. Write to Larry White, General Delivery, Stony Rapids SK S0J 2R0.

SEEK TOP OR DAD anywhere. I can travel extensively. Would like to relocate for a monogamous, health-conscious and fun relationship. I'm 41, 5'11" 175, bald, beard, honest, quiet, positive and willing to please. Box 601, Montreal QC H2L 4L5.

• Y U K O N •

LET'S TALK
GWM, MID 40's, SEEKS FRIEND/COMPANION to share life's experiences. Age, race unimportant; compassion, stability, understanding and ability to share are important. Drawer G407.

• BRITISH COLUMBIA •

KAMLOOPS-SHUSWAP. GM, 37, medium build, professional, responsible, reasonably sane, happy, loving, seeking similar man nearby. Anyone else here? Please contact. We'll talk. Drawer G400.

• C A L G A R Y •

HANDSOME YOUNG COLT WISHES TO organize camera party with similar types. For invitation, send full length nude photo with phone number. Will also swap my photo with others anywhere. Drawer G416.

ATTRACTIVE, INTERESTING, SINCERE, warm GWM with varied interests, 30, seeks professional GWM, 30-50, for friendship, maybe relationship. I'm into romance, humour and communication with the right man. Not desperate or into scene. If you're sincere, good-natured, down-to-earth and like romance, don't be shy and write! No one-night stands. Photo appreciated but not essential. Drawer G447.

• E D M O N T O N •

LONELY IN EDMONTON
GWM, 40, 6'6", looking for other male, 25-40, interested in classical music, shows or quiet evenings. Reply to Box 1478, MPO, Edmonton AB T5J 2N5.

• SOUTHERN ONTARIO •

HOT, HUNG, YOUNG, MALE, TALL
LDFFRGMAAHS LHUNGHPBMWRU
HOT HUNG YOUNG MALE, 28, 170 lbs, dark features, French Russian, am adventurous, healthy, stable, looking for hung horny partners, tall basketball types most welcome, race, looks unimportant. Drawer G420.

GWM, 30, QUIET, INTERESTED in bodybuilding, camping, cycling, into quiet times. Looking for similar ages 20 to 40 who is not into bar scene. Non-smoker, non-drinker, no drugs, no exotic games, please. Please, respond with photo and letter. All answer. Drawer G419

PHOTO: DAVID BLAIR



ATTRACTIVE, STRAIGHT-LOOKING long-haired GWM couple, 26 & 23, into fitness, seeking masculine young men for partying and safe sex. From Niagara area to Toronto. Your photo gets ours. All answered. Drawer G399.

BELLEVILLE AREA GUY, 27, quiet, masculine, reliable; looking for similar type for friendship and possible relationship. Write Drawer G431.

VERY ATTRACTIVE GWM, 5'10" 155 lbs, young with mature outlook, seeks mature male (under 45) for companionship and romance in K/W area. Discretion assured and expected. Safe sex only. Photo and phone get reply. Drawer G437.

OWENSOUND AREA MALE, late 20s, seeks same for some seriousness. I am tall, lean, attractive and I am willing to relocate. Drawer G436.

• H A M I L T O N •

AVERAGE GUY, MASCULINE appearance, 6' 175 lbs, 60, retired, moderate income, would like to meet someone around the same age for friendship. Have easy-going nature, wide and varied interests and enjoy quiet home life. Would be understanding of any special interests you may have. Drawer G379.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

HANDSOME, PROFESSIONAL, SENSITIVE GWM, 29, 6' 175 lbs, dark hair and moustache: enjoys walks, movies, dancing, exploration and quiet times. Seeks healthy similar (discreet, honest, mature, sincere, bright and humorous; enjoys love, caring and safe sex). For monogamous relationship. Let us enjoy a "prosperous" year! Drawer G442.

• M O N T R E A L •

SELF-SUCK MODELS

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST-PHOTOGRAPHER wants men into auto-eroticism for photo sessions (self-sucking, dildo users, etc). Am based in Montreal but will travel. Age, race and looks not a priority; servicing oneself is. All responses strictly confidential. Photo would help. For interview write to Evergon, Box 34, Stn A, Ottawa ON K1N 8V1.

GWM, FRENCH, MID 20s, MATURE, easy-going, not into bars, wishes to meet other men, under 30, mature, French or English. No alcoholics. For friendship or maybe more. Photo appreciated. Drawer G440.

• Q U E B E C •

HAWTHORNE over coffee? GWM, 27, once described as baklava - flaky outside, warm/sweet inside - may have had one too many baklavas (6' 200 lbs) seeks other serious individuals (favours rugby player build). Drawer G427.

• N O V A S C O T I A •

GWM, 43, NEW to Dartmouth, well-endowed, deep-throat, versatile. Interests: cooking, movies, time in country. All replies with photo answered. Box 302, Dartmouth Main PO, Dartmouth NS B2Y 3Y5.

• H A L I F A X •

STATUS INDIANS (!)

NON-STATUS BOYS WELCOME, too. Would like to adopt native boy. I am for peace, socialism, like to take you to Cuba, but must correspond by letter and/or phone for awhile to avoid past pains and grief. I'm crazy about strong, masculine Native kids with nut brown skin, dark angry eyes, in he-man, faded, designer jeans, but will answer everyone of any age. Not home 80% of the time, but answering machine will give hour and day of my return. Phone (902) 423-7771 (Halifax NS) or write Drawer G378.

MARRIED MALE, 40, new to Halifax, desires discreet meetings in metro area. Drawer G441.

• F R E D R I C T O N •

GWM 26, WARM, CARING, TALL, healthy, straight-acting/appearing, enjoys good food, dancing, reading, swimming, biking, walks, talks, movies, small home parties and a hug. My life is not dominated by my gayness. Majority of friends are straight and don't care that I am gay. Cutting down on local scene. Starting professional life and working out. Seek same for monogamous relationship. Cancer; French; Fredricton. Will consider travelling. No drugs. Drawer G444.

• T O R O N T O •

HOT, HORNY GWM COUPLE now preparing for a long cold winter; is looking for singles/couples to generate friction and light up the nights. Write and tell us about your talents. Drawer G320.

MASCULINE, PROFESSIONAL, AFFECTIONATE MALE, 38, 5'10" 180 lbs, non-smoker, moustache, hairy, cut, seeks similar responsible, muscular male, 28-45, for friendship. Interests: world-wide travel, nature, skiing, swimming, scuba-diving, cycling, aerobics, weights, theatre, classical music, movies. All letters with phone and preferably photo answered. Drawer G329.

BOXERS WANTED

GWM, 38, 6' 160 lbs, top shape, trained boxer, looking for opponents for friendly or competitive bouts. (416) 920-4893.

WHAT IS THE MOST interesting thing you have done with your piss? GWM, 36, 6' 170 lbs, moustache, into watersports, rimming and fantasy scenes. Drawer G373.

HOT & READY

GWM, 37, 5'6" 155 lbs, seeks a male for long sexual sessions. Into jerk-off and safe-sex suck. Prefer male, 21-34, who is well-hung, cut and has bushy cock hair. Should be casual in bleached jeans and bikini briefs. Must have own place. Send detailed letter with photo. Drawer G377.

GWM, 25, 5'7" SLIM, shoulder length brown hair, brown eyes, attractive but not GQ, relaxed, casual lifestyle, varied interests. Wish to meet an attractive confident, stable individual 23-35 for occasional dating, etc., future possibilities. A bit apprehensive where relationships are considered but willing to give it a shot if you are. Send letter and photo. Drawer G380.

HARDWORKING, PROFESSIONAL GWM 5'11" 160 lbs, brown hair and eyes, 36, seeking new friends for quiet times at home or a night at the movies. Drawer G391

• O T T A W A •

ARE YOU TIRED OF CRUISING?

NATURAL BLOND MALE, 29, seeking unattached tall dark-haired male for possible relationship. Reply: Mark, Box 2280, Stn D, Ottawa ON K1P 5W4

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IF YOU WISH TO nurture a possible relationship with a shy young male (25) who seeks a man in his life. Reply: Scott, Box 2280, Stn D, Ottawa ON K1P 5W4.

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SEEKING TS OR TV. Lab technician, 30, 5'9" 200lbs, brown-skinned, bodybuilder, is looking for a serious relationship with TS or TV. Please write to Drawer G413.

GWM, 43, MASCULINE, HORNY stud, 5'10" 175lbs, brown hair, reddish/blond body hair, big cock and balls, would like to meet other horny guys eg: younger guys, country types and couples for good times. Enjoy toke, music and quiet times. Please reply with photo and phone. Thanks. Drawer G430.

HORNY WHITE MALE, 32, LOOKING for hung boys (18-40) who wanna have fun. Race no barrier. Groups ok too. Send descriptive letter and phone. Be suggestive if you wish. Drawer G428.

GWM, 33, 6'4" 180lbs, MASCULINE, friendly, secure. I hike, camp and x-country ski. I play guitar, bridge, enjoy photography and would like to start body building. Enjoy occasional phone sex. I lead a busy life but would like some weekend companionship. Active days and hot nights. Interested? Drawer G422.

GWM, 30, 5'8" 170lbs, who is stable, honest, caring, who likes dancing, movies, dining out, body building and life. Seeks black or white males who have similar interests and qualifications or whatever. Be seeing you. Drawer G417.

NIPPLE FREAK

GWM, 47, 5'10" 155lbs, SLIM build, grey hair and beard. Established Professional likes music, opera, arts, sensuous times, massages, oil etc. Seek friendships. Longer relationship possible. Are you slim, my age, or younger? Will answer all. Reply Drawer G418. North Toronto.

DENIM AND ROUGH STUFF. Sex toy needs his balls abused and getting force fucked while we both wear denim jackets/shirts and jeans (pull 'em half down or rip holes to get in!) Drawer G421.

J/O ENTHUSIASTS

22-YEAR-OLD, ATTRACTIVE, horny, hunky, hairy-assed J/O artist, looking for a long hot J/O session with other masculine male(s). Group session possible. Photo and phone appreciated. All replies answered. Drawer F988.

WANTED: TOP-MAN FOR B/D, some S/M, for young trim Asian. Uncut, smooth with tight buns. Photo and phone please, sir. Drawer G432.

BODYBUILDER NEEDED BY YOUNG, fat, gay executive whose goal is to lose 100 lbs (45 kg) between Jan 1 — Jul 1/87. I will pay \$10/lb lost (\$22/kg) for your expertise, guidance and support. Box 1190, Stn F, Toronto ON M4Y 2T8.

GWM 27, 5'7", chunky, bearded. More interested in morning after than night before. Likes beards, humour, theatre, music, walks, talks. Gay fathers welcome. Drawer G433.

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PROFESSIONAL, ATTRACTIVE ASIAN, 5'6" 125lbs, trim, enjoys theatre, dining-out, gay community work. I'm ready for a relationship with a compatible male, under 35. Why not take a chance? Photo and phone, please. Drawer G439.

HAVE YOUR OWN SLAVE

SUBMISSIVE BI MALE, CRAVES to serve superior imaginative Master. Needs to be dominated, punished, humiliated. Cannot entertain. Also available daytime. Drawer G443.

GWM, BEARD, 33, 150 lbs, sincere, would enjoy meeting bearded masculine type, 30-40, who is sexually submissive in a responsible and affectionate way. Drawer G449.

GDLKNG DESIGNR HORNY TO LUV

SPECIALMAN. AM 27, black hair, brown eyes, 174 centimetres, 60 kg, ethnically, han, quiet, astute, sensual, visually oriented, professional, creative, pluralist. Like film, good talk, food, sex, try new things, Italian, languages, sought, intelligent, honest, sensitive, emotionally developed, taller, handsome, strong, soulmate, lover, boyfriend, image please. Let's see if we click. Drawer G445.

ORIENTAL MALE STUDENT

CLEAN-CUT, HEALTHY, MUSCULAR, monogamous seeks meaningful friendship and possible relationship. Send letter and photo to Drawer G451.

DOMINATION WANTED BY VERY HANDSOME altogether GWM. Need arrogant, handsome, white business-like man who would enjoy this puppy dog at his feet. Drawer G446.

NICE EUROPEAN GUY (26) looking for friend/lover. Interests: music (Vollenweider, Glass); movies (Parting Glances) and quiet times. If you're into quiet times and plastic, forget it. Drawer G411.

OK RASSLIN' FANS!

GWM, 36, 5'5" 200lbs, hairy chest, clean-shave, U/C, in Toronto through January. Enjoy playing chubby villian vs thin to muscular opponents. Fantasy only, but as fun, erotic or intense as you desire! Safe Fr A/P, tits, oil. Photo challenge to Tim, 2 Bloor St W, Suite 100-412, Toronto ON M4W 3E2.

MUSCULAR GM, 31, CUDDLY, nice smile, seeks another man for safe sex get-togethers. Interests include body contact, sweat and oil sessions, chest work, rubbing, J/O, massage, hugging. I am sexually sensitive on every square inch of my body and like to give pleasure to every square inch of my partner. Please send photo. Drawer G450.

PRISONERS

PEN-PALS

A NOTE to prisoners who wish to have pen pals — Metropolitan Community Church is offering a pen-pal service to men and women prisoners through the church's prison ministry. Prison Ministry, 2029 Gerrard St E, Toronto ON M4E 2B3.

JOINT VENTURE

THE LARGEST PENPAL SERVICE for gays and bisexuals now has a 16-page brochure on how to find a prison penpal, what to do when that happens, what to send, what not to send, hot letters, pornography, financial rip-offs, emotional rip-offs, postal money order scams, visits, getting out, falling in love, who the inmate really is, and "why am I doing this?" The whole inside story is contained in our how-to booklet called *Dear Insider*. It is available with every Joint Venture membership subscription: three month trial, \$5; one year, \$15. Single copies are available for \$2. Joint Venture is a non-profit corporation. Write us at Box 26-8484, Chicago IL 60626.

MESSAGES

RODGE!

COME BACK TO THE TBP, Gilli-an, Gilli-an. We await your return. Everyone.

IF A COMPLETE STRANGER were to walk up to you on the street and tell you that he was mr tim, would you believe him?

CAEL. I DON'T UNDERSTAND why you want to be alone, but I'll respect your wishes. As we begin this year apart, I can only hope that we can end it together. If you want to just talk, remember, the islands are empty and endless; we could make it a day. Paul.

DRAWER G360. SIR: you replied to my ad, but the date you gave me (Thu) didn't match the day (the 6th). Please write again, and I'll meet you at Glen Road.

FOR THE WEEN. As the third year without you draws to a close, I only want you to know that I am happy with my life. I owe this to you. Love, 'dee.

LESBIANS OF COLOUR

PLEASE COME BY THE OFFICE to pick up your mail. If you'd like it mailed out, just give us a call, 364-6320.

TBP: CONGRATS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY. You all deserve a pat on the back for the love, care and dedication you've given over the past fifteen years. The last word.



Anyone interested in ordering a David Blair photograph can contact the artist at (416) 469-3138.

ROMANCE IN YOUR HEART?

IS THERE AN HONEST, sensitive, intelligent and considerate person out there who wants to share his feelings and thoughts with someone who really cares? I've got a friend who's a real swell guy with a great sense of humour. He's a secure GWM professional, with everything going for him except a relationship. With his immense interest in theatre, minor interest in opera, and excellent facility for other intellectual pursuits he'd be quite a catch. Write to him c/o Drawer G412 and tell him Robbie told you to.

WANTED

\$ COMPANION-ASSISTANT \$, for 40s, handsome former Olympian, dress-set entrepreneur, living in Toronto and Europe; a strong, tall, very handsome 25-35-year-old gay, bi or straight top-man, who is sexy and imaginative. Must have good driving record. Must be cultured with sense of humour and loyalty, and be able to relate to lifestyle from Rolls Royce to Harley Davidson. Excellent starting salary and benefits, plus independent studio apartment in Toronto and Geneva. 2 photos, full plus head shot, good handwritten letter with telephone number. Drawer G452.

SOME OF THE INMATES living in Louisiana correctional institutes have been successful in obtaining money or material items from individuals living outside the institution. The inmates have done this by misrepresenting certain facts about themselves such as their age, sex, race, crime, release date, etc. These misrepresentations have been made through the mail or by telephone. Anyone wishing to learn the true status of a Louisiana inmate they are corresponding with prior to sending money or material items, please call (504) 342-6740 and ask for Mrs Goodes. You need not identify yourself to receive this information.

BOOKS FOR PRISONERS

LEFT BANK BOOKS sponsors a Books For Prisoners project. Through donations and a postage grant we are able to send free miscellaneous books to inmates everywhere (provided an institution allows them). We offer special order books at cost (usually 35-40% off). Prisoners and other interested persons should write: Books For Prisoners, Box A, 92 Pike St, Seattle, WA 98101.

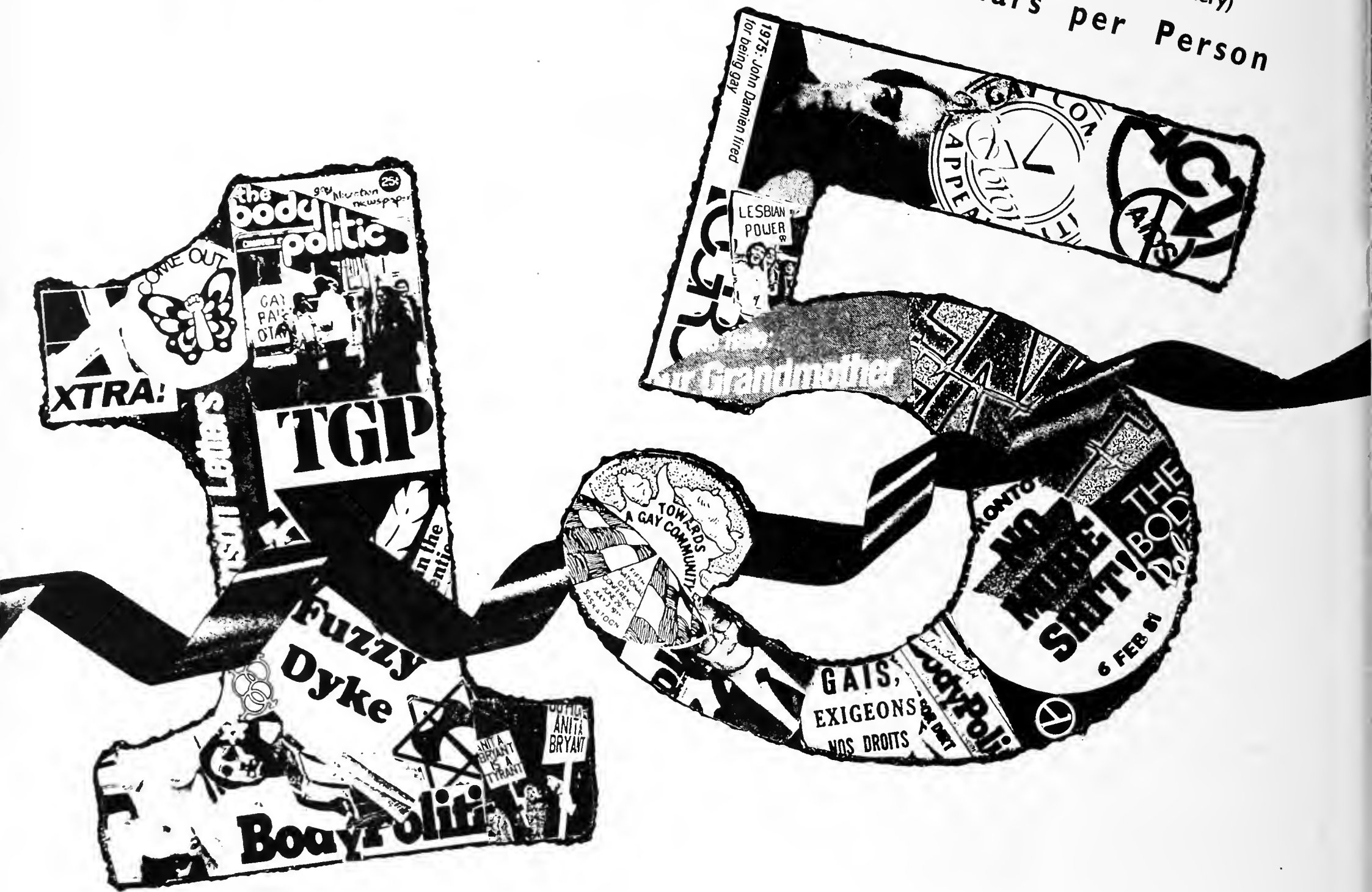
**GWM seeks
same
●
GWF seeks
same**

What does this mean?

Classified shorthand is a good way to say a lot in a little space. but it can leave you saying things you may not mean. If you're a Gay White Male or a Gay White Female looking for a fling or a friend, and if race doesn't matter to you, don't limit your options inadvertently. Tell people what you want in your own words and you'll get results!

SWEET

8 pm
January 15, 1987
1087 Queen St W, 2nd Floor
(at Dovercourt, upstairs from the Music Gallery)
Fifteen Dollars per Person



JANUARY

You're invited...

Let your memories run wild. Join in as Pink Triangle Press, in conjunction with **The Body Politic**, celebrates 15 years of lesbian and gay life in Canada with a party for all of us. It's a big bash for everyone who's made the news, seen the marches, marshalled the forces, staffed the phones, danced at the dances, sung the songs, or just loved reading about it all.

An historic event marking 15 years of lesbian and gay news-making, yesterday's and today's. Don't miss it — help fund the next 15 years.

Tickets available from Glad Day Bookshop (598A Yonge Street), This Ain't the Rosedale Library (483 Church Street), Toronto Women's Bookstore (73 Harbord Street) and Pink Triangle Press (54 Wolseley Street, third floor).



Group: Some members of Pink Triangle Press, publisher of The Body Politic and Xtra
Photographer: David Blair
Occasion: Annual Meeting
Date: November 16, 1986
Smiles: Courtesy Harold Desmarais
Place: Hart House, University of Toronto

Left to Right; Back Row: Ken Popert, Warren Dunford, Brian Flint, Hollie Devlin, Gillian Rodgeron, Lee Waldorf, Ward Beattie, David Blair, David Rayside, Floyd Hutton, Tony Johnston, Robbie Pennant, Peter Bernier, Andrew Lesk.
Middle Row: John Allec, Doug Grenville, Chris Lea, Michael Totzke, Gerald Hannon, Tim McCaskell, Jim Leahy, Dale Bolivar, Greg Wight.
Front Row: Rick Bébout, Corrie Campbell, Ian King, Chris Bearchell.
Average age of men: 32
Average age of women: 26
Number of right-handed men: 20
Number of right-handed women: 5
Number of men not wearing underwear: 7
Number of women not wearing underwear: 1
Number of women not wearing bras: 3
Masturbation: Fifteen of the men had masturbated a total of 17 times in the previous 24 hours; none of the women had masturbated in the same time period.

Sex: Thirteen of the men had had sex with 16 different people in the previous week; 4 of the women accumulated 5 different partners.
Average annual salary of men: \$26,388 (\$12,000 lowest; \$60,000 highest).
Average annual salary of women: \$7,427 (No salary, lowest; \$13,000 highest).
Pets: Sixteen men and 1 woman claimed no pets. Seven men and 4 women claimed 6 fish, 2 canaries and 13 cats. Canaries named Timmy and Oxford. Cats named Laager, Albert, Sheba, Lily, Maude, Mother, Teenager, Hazel, Irving, Biddle, Katrina, Zooey and Micah.
Sex with member of the opposite sex: Twelve of the men and all of the women.
Marriage: One man married, divorced, one child. One woman currently married.
Lovers: Ten of the men and 3 of the women have lovers. Of the 13 men who don't, 10 would like one. Of the 2 women who don't, neither would.

Criminal activity: Nine of the men and 1 of the women had been arrested at some point. All of the women and 19 of the men had had sex somewhere outside; 3 of the women and 14 of the men had had sex in a park; 3 of the women and 8 of the men had had sex in a public washroom.
Smoking: Nine men and 1 woman smoke tobacco.
Most common eye colour: Blue
Religious affiliation: Eleven list none, 1 United Church, 2 atheists, 1 "I like Buddhas," 2 Anglican, 1 "into new age mystic Eastern ideas," 1 unknown, 2 no answer, 1 Catholic, 1 Urantra Book, 1 "Roman Catholic until I was 2," 1 zip, 1 zippo, 1 ex-pagan.
Average come-out age for men: 22 **For women:** 20
Ex-lovers: The men claimed a total of 6 female and 38 male ex-lovers. The women claimed 62 male and 30 female ex-lovers. •

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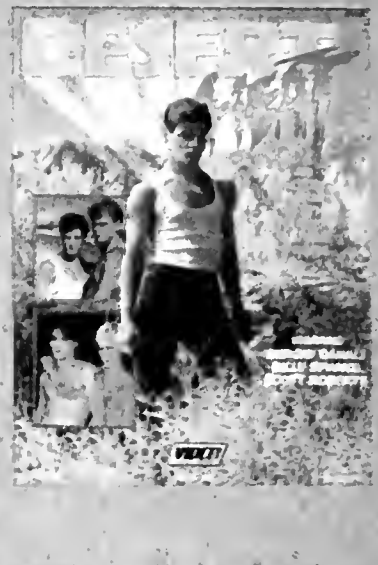
TOTALLY AWESOME 1985 84 min. Hey dudes! Skip and the gang want all you big boys to come down to the Valley. Like, for sure! These guys know where the beef is... and they serve it up, inch by sizzling inch! All ramrods, apply NOW!



DELIVERY BOYS 80 Min. Basic, real and raw! Getting off is the main objective. Acts of solo sleaze are balanced with man-to-man action that sucks and grips with sizzling wet shots. Close up penetration camera work gives this video a universal appeal. A sex drenched pumpathon, not to be missed!



WRESTLING STUDS 1986 80 min. Stud wrestling permits tackling, tripping and every other hold, grip and grope necessary to get two hard men primed for a wad blowing experience! As in the arenas of old, our story begins with a challenge and explodes into action that lays male aggression bare.



DESERT HEAT 1986 86 min. Eight young men embark on an invasion of Palm Springs. It happens every year, with hordes of young hunks on the lookout for fun and games. Lots of tight buns and fresh faces, with emphasis on doing it for the first time. Tons of steaming action with washboard stomachs, firm pec's and young butts!



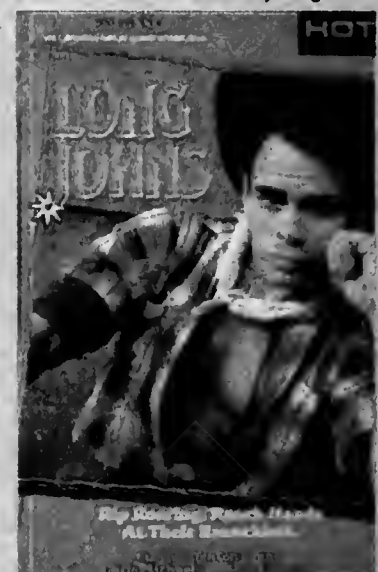
NEW WAVE HUSTLERS 1985 87 min. The Doe Boy's hottest full length male pic x-poses Hollywood's hot, young, hung punks in heat! Newcomers to Sin City learn about big city sex life and street life faster than anyone could imagine. Join the boys as they cruise the Best in the West and discover how to fit in!



VOYEUR 1986 80 min. Blond stud Jesse Koehler plays a hot and horny voyeur who lives in the Hollywood Hills and uses his binoculars to watch his three tanned and toned neighbours get it up an off, together and apart in rim and ream action that ricochets with groin grinding power! A wad wringing riot!



SAILOR IN THE WILD 1983 90 min. Shore leave turns into an unforgettable sex filled extravaganza as new comer Brian Thompson co-stars with fourteen measuring tape busting studs in William Higgins' hottest video. X-Rated Critics Association, Best Picture of the Year. WINNER, 1985 Gay Erotic Awards.



LONG JOHNS 1985 90 Min. Life as a hired hand on a ranch gives a new meaning to the term "Big Spread". Judd is a hard guy looking for a job, and after being broken in by Tanner, the ranch owner, looks like he just might get it! But Judd still has to get through his first night in the bunkhouse, where the action is non-stop.



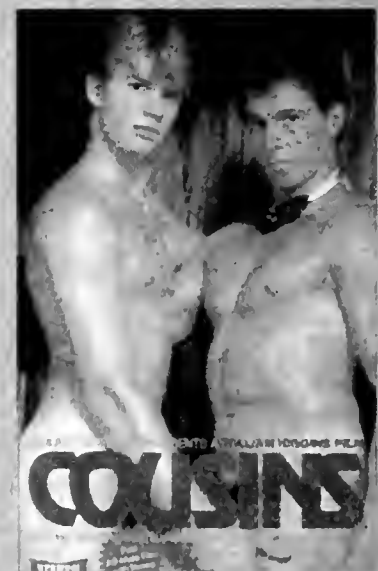
POKER STUDS 1985 80 min. It's time to ante up as five good friends meet for a game of stud. All the boys have good hands... and the butts to match! This video is a must for shaving fans. The willing victim squirms under the blades of his three well hung friends, while he feeds on the meat of the fourth dangling over his face! "light, airy, spontaneous" 2 Stars, GAY VIDEO



THE YOUNG AND THE HUNG 1985 80 min. A cast of ultra handsome and well endowed young men. One look at Christopher Lance's boyish, blond features, or Michael Gere's southern charm and the 10 hard inches of Francois Papillon make it clear that this kind of talent has never before been assembled in one film. Of course, it's from William Higgins.



TUB STUDS 1985 80 min. Humpy locker room action... hard hitting group grope excitement! A no holds barred flesh party that takes some surprising turns without losing sight of it's goal: to get everyone off, via fool, tongue and canal! Man-to-man lust beautifully portrayed. "Good strong camera work & editing. Treated with exceptional care." 2 Stars, GAY VIDEO



COUSINS 1984 85 min. There's a bond between kin that movie master William Higgins truly understands. The world's top male director proves that "kissing cousins" can do a lot more than kiss, and anything goes when 10 incredible newcomers bare all for the camera. Totally explicit, all guy stuff-fest! "Brilliant opening sequence, superb editing and photography" 2 Stars, GAY VIDEO.

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